

**From:** ROGER PRESTON  
**Sent:** 20 March 2017 09:43  
**To:** Day, Peter - E&E

**Subject:** Minerals and Waste Local Plan Update – Clanfield/Bampton area

Dear Mr Day,

**Minerals and Waste Local Plan Update – Clanfield/Bampton area**

I am writing to object to the inclusion of the Clanfield/ Bampton area being included in the final plan. My objection focuses on three points.

1. **Low grade materials.** The area has not previously been subject to extraction because the deposits are not deep and the extraction process is inefficient compared to many other sites within West Oxfordshire. Further the quality of material which could be obtained is low – lower than that which is available from recycled aggregates - to extract from these deposits now would fly in the face of the current aims of sustainable construction in the UK and should not be allowed.

2. **Poor access and egress.** Any material won from this area would have to be moved by lorry. From the A4095 Clanfield-Bampton Road there are 6 possible exit routes:

To the north,

A4095 to Witney

B4020 to Carterton

All other directions would require crossing a bridge carrying a weight restriction,

Lechlade –on-Thames 10t

Radcot 7.5t

Tadpole 18t

Newbridge 18t

To move large quantities of material from this area will require inefficient small loads or detours around the weight restrictions – again not within the current aims of sustainable construction.

3. **Recent housing developments.**

West Oxfordshire District Council has not had a valid housing plan and thus the area has been subject to an unprecedented number of speculative development applications. Under the National Planning Policy Framework these are effectively obliged to receive approval. This will be resulting in an almost 50% increase in number of residents in Bampton (several other villages having similar or slightly smaller increases) without any increase in employment opportunities thus forcing increases in commuter road traffic. Ironically the deposits in question are not suitable for housing development and must be exported whilst suitable building materials for these developments must be imported. To allow the extraction of this material will place an intolerable burden on the road infrastructure and its users. Rather the area should be maintained as one of the few sections along the River Thames not blighted by industrial operations to the benefit of all residents and visitors.

Yours sincerely,

Dr RJ Preston

Chartered Civil Engineer  
Chartered Environmentalist