

establishing such facilities on a temporary basis or by siting and designing them in a way which does not sterilise the mineral resource or significantly constrain quarrying operations.

- 302 This Plan does not identify opportunities for the disposal of residual municipal waste or other forms of waste to landfill sites. It similarly opposes (through Policy RS 4) land raise operations unless there will be demonstrable benefits to the appearance of the environment and no harmful impacts and the need for additional relevant landfill capacity in the Plan area has been established at the national or regional level.

Minerals

Policy RS 5 Minerals

Planning permission will be granted for development to extract minerals from the quarries identified on the Proposals Map: Hillwood, Bonnington Mains, Ravelrig and Craigiehall Quarry. Development which would prevent or significantly constrain the potential to extract minerals from these sites with economically viable mineral deposits will not be allowed.

- 303 It is important to protect economically viable mineral deposits from sterilisation by permanent development. The only mineral resource within the area likely to be economically viable in the Plan period is hard rock. There are three operational quarries in the LDP area - Hillwood (dormant), Bonnington Mains and Ravelrig. The above policy is intended to protect that resource, and to ensure that new development does not introduce conflict which would prejudice mineral operations.
- 304 The Plan area also includes deposits of coal in the west and south east and small areas of peat in the south west. Proposals for their extraction will be assessed for their environmental and traffic impact using other policies in this Plan. An additional consideration, when assessing proposals affecting peat, is its role as a carbon sink.

Water Supply and Drainage

Policy RS 6 Water and Drainage

Planning permission will not be granted where there is an inadequate water supply or sewerage available to meet the demands of the development and necessary improvements cannot be provided.

- 305 Scottish Water has replaced the main storage and treatment facilities in Edinburgh, at Fairmilehead and Alnwickhill, with a new facility at Glencorse in Midlothian. Further, smaller scale, enhancements of the water supply and sewerage network may be needed to serve new development. For larger developments this will be identified and delivered as described in Policy Del 1.

Telecommunications

Policy RS 7 Telecommunications

Planning permission will be granted for telecommunications development provided:

- a) the visual impact of the proposed development has been minimised through careful siting, design and, where appropriate, landscaping
- b) it has been demonstrated that all practicable options and alternative sites have been considered, including the possibility of using existing masts, structures and buildings and/or site sharing
- c) the proposal would not harm the built or natural heritage of the city.

- 306 The provision of new telecommunications infrastructure is essential to economic competitiveness. The telecommunications industry must be enabled to expand and diversify, but this must be undertaken sensitively and imaginatively, and with minimum environmental impact. Telecommunications equipment such as antennas, mobile phone masts and base stations can have a significant visual

impact in both urban and rural areas. Telecommunications operators are therefore required to demonstrate that all practicable options to minimise impact have been explored, and the best solution identified.

- 307 There will be a limited number of locations, including city landmarks such as Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crag, where the impact of an installation cannot be satisfactorily minimised, and where it will therefore be unacceptable in principle. In other locations, individual proposals may be acceptable but where there is a concentration of these uses, consideration will be given to the cumulative visual impact. Conditions will be imposed on any consent, requiring the removal of any mast or apparatus and the reinstatement of a site to its former condition when it becomes redundant.
- 308 Edinburgh is one of ten UK cities to receive early delivery of high speed broadband and large areas of wireless connectivity in public areas. The latter will require installation of new equipment, some of which may require planning permission or conservation area / listed building consent. These will be assessed using the above policy if appropriate and a separate non-statutory guideline on telecommunications.