



**Chief Executive and Environment
Director: John Wood**

**Spatial Planning and Economy
Minerals and Waste Team**

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Date : 18 April 2017

via email

Mr David McCabe

Dear Mr McCabe

RE: BIRCHALL GARDEN SUBURB, MINERALS

I write regarding your letter dated 24 March 2017, received in response to my request for further geological reasoning as to the proposed reduced level of mineral extraction at the Birchall Garden Suburb area to prevent sterilisation of mineral due to the potential for housing development.

I am grateful to you for considering the different scenarios suggested and am now satisfied that sufficient evidence and reasoning has been presented to the county council to agree that, under these specific circumstances, the reduced level of mineral extraction (circa 162,000) is reasonable.

The county council is committed to safeguarding mineral resources and will continue to work with local authorities and developers to seek sustainable solutions to competing demands. As I am sure you are aware, planning applications are dealt with on their merits and the potential sterilisation of mineral resources due to built development would be a material consideration.

Please see below a link to the agenda for the Development Control Committee of 22 March 2017 where you can see the reports presented to the committee for your consideration.

<https://cmis.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hertfordshire/Calendarofcouncilmeetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/553/Committee/2/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

Mrs Julie Greaves
Minerals and Waste Policy Manager