



The Coal  
Authority

200 Lichfield Lane  
Mansfield  
Nottinghamshire  
NG18 4RG

T: 01623 637119

E: [planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk](mailto:planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk)

**FAO: Planning Policy Team**

High Peak Borough Council

**BY EMAIL:** [LDF@highpeak.gov.uk](mailto:LDF@highpeak.gov.uk)

22nd June 2023

Dear Planning Policy Team

**Re: Whaley Bridge - Neighbourhood Plan**

Thank you for your notification received on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in respect of the above consultation.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. As a statutory consultee, The Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

Our records indicate that within the identified Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan area there are recorded coal mining features present at surface and shallow depth including: mine entries, shallow coal workings and reported surface hazards. These feature may pose a potential risk to surface stability and public safety.

The Coal Authority's records also indicate that surface coal resource is present in the area, although this should not be taken to imply that mineral extraction would be economically viable, technically feasible or environmentally acceptable. As you will be aware those authorities with responsibility for minerals planning and safeguarding will have identified where they consider minerals of national importance are present in your area and related policy considerations. As part of the planning process consideration should be given to such advice in respect of the indicated surface coal resource.

It is noted however that the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan does not appear to allocate any new sites for future development and on this basis the Planning team at the Coal Authority have no specific comments to make on this document.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this further.

Yours faithfully

*Melanie Lindsley*

**Melanie Lindsley** *BA (Hons), DipEH, DipURP, MA, PGCertUD, PGCertSP, MRTPI*

**Principal Planning & Development Manager**

