

**CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL
MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK.
COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 14th DECEMBER 2007.**

Definition of “sound”:

**** WHAT DOES “SOUND” MEAN IN THIS CONTEXT?**

When the Planning Inspectorate “examine” the next version of this plan, they will use the definition below to see if the documents are “sound”.

The “tests of soundness” are detailed here in case you wish to refer to them, but you do not have to. You could use the term in it’s common meaning of “trustworthy and making sense”.

“A development plan document will be sound if it meets the following tests:

Procedural

- i. it has been prepared in accordance with the local development scheme;
- ii. it has been prepared in compliance with the statement of community involvement, or with the minimum requirements set out in the Regulations⁴⁷ where no statement of community involvement exists;
- iii. the plan and its policies have been subjected to sustainability appraisal;

Conformity

- iv. it is a spatial plan which is consistent with national planning policy and in general conformity with the regional spatial strategy for the region or, in London, the spatial development strategy and it has properly had regard to any other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to the area or to adjoining areas;
- v. it has had regard to the authority’s community strategy;

Coherence, consistency and effectiveness

- vi. the strategies/policies/allocations in the plan are coherent and consistent within and between development plan documents prepared by the authority and by neighbouring authorities, where cross boundary issues are relevant;
- vii. the strategies/policies/allocations represent the most appropriate in all the circumstances, having considered the relevant alternatives, and they are founded on a robust and credible evidence base;
- viii. there are clear mechanisms for implementation and monitoring; and
- ix. the plan is reasonably flexible to enable it to deal with changing circumstances.”

Planning Policy Statement 12 : Local Development Frameworks: Paragraph 4.24