

OP034 – Spawforths – Site MUI Agricultural Land Grading

Sent: Fri 05/01/2018 08.27

To: PO

CC: Neil Terrett, Tweed Paula, William Mulvany

Dear Mr Gilbert,

At the Examination hearing session on 12th December 2017 the Inspector requested that the Barnsley West Consortium supply details of the agricultural land quality within site MUI.

I am advised by the Barnsley West Consortium that the agricultural land within the defined limits of the proposed MUI allocation is classified as Grade 3b. This is because land comprises heavy clay soil restored following previous open cast mining of the site.

Classification within Grade 3 of the Agricultural Land Classification confirms the quality of the land within site MUI as 'Good to Moderate'. Nonetheless, since it is classified as Grade 3b none of the land within the site constitutes best and most versatile agricultural land, which is defined in Annex 2: Glossary to the National Planning Policy Framework as, "*Land in grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification.*"

I would be obliged if you would pass this information on to the Inspector and arrange for them to be posted on the Barnsley Local Plan Examination website.

Please can you acknowledge safe receipt of this message.

Kind regards,

Paul

PAUL BEDWELL

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