

# Onshore Oil and Gas Supplementary Planning Document

## Scoping Consultation Outcomes Report

September 2014

## Table of Contents

1. Introduction .....	2
2. The persons consulted .....	2
3. Summary of the main issues raised.....	2
4. How those issues have been addressed in the draft SPD.....	3
Appendix A: Key stakeholders notified of the consultation .....	7
Appendix B: Comments received.....	11

This document has been prepared jointly by Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

Further details of the local plan, and to download this and other documents, please visit our website [www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf). Or contact:

- Lancashire County Council, PO Box 100, Cross Street, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD
- Telephone: 01772 534294
- Email: [lmwf@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:lmwf@lancashire.gov.uk)





## 1. Introduction

In April 2014 Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council resolved to produce a supplementary planning document (SPD), to provide guidance on the implementation of adopted development plan policy as it would apply to onshore oil and gas exploration, production and distribution. The first step in this process was to consult on the potential scope of the SPD. This consultation was carried out between 27<sup>th</sup> June and 25<sup>th</sup> July.

This report presents information on this consultation, describing who was consulted, what they said, and how the SPD was drafted to respond to what was said.

## 2. The persons consulted

At this early stage in the SPD's preparation the consultation was targeted at key stakeholders. Notification emails or letters were sent out to:

- the Environment Agency,
- Health and Safety Executive,
- Natural England,
- DECC,
- CPRE,
- Local action groups
- Onshore oil and gas operators active in Lancashire, and their representative body,
- Friends of the Earth,
- Greenpeace,
- Parish Councils, District Councils, Unitary and County Councils within and adjacent to Lancashire
- (a full list is provided at appendix A)

The consultation was advertised on Lancashire County Council's webpage, to ensure that other interested parties could make representations.

Representations could be submitted in writing, by email, or online through the Council's 'Have your Say' webpage, and the 'objective online consultation portal'.

## 3. Summary of the main issues raised

Twenty two representations were received: 3 were submitted through the Council's 'Have your Say' webpage; 1 was received by post; 1 was received through the Council's objective online consultation portal; and 17 were received by email. In addition 1 late representation was received by post, and 1 by email (these representations are included in the summary below and in chapter 4, and are separately referenced in appendix B).

These representations are listed in full in appendix B. The main issues raised in the representations are summarised below.

- Supporting the proposed contents of the SPD.
- Include reference to the economic benefits, and include reference to local economic strategies.
- Clearly explain the relevant policies, how they will be applied, and the range of planning controls that can be used.
- Specify minimum allowable separation distances between well pads.
- The principal issues the SPD should address include: water use; waste; groundwater contamination; surface water contamination; soil; emissions; air quality; flood risk; traffic; noise; landscape; visual; heritage; nature conservation designations; ecology; infrastructure; site aftercare and restoration; land stability and physical integrity of buildings; community infrastructure within 5km; adverse socio economic impacts.
- Must make clear that it is to provide guidance on existing policy, and cannot introduce new policy or conflict with approved policy or guidance.
- The SPD should not consider the principle of oil and gas.
- The SPD should describe the variety of consents and permits that will be required in addition to obtaining planning permissions.
- The document should contain prominent sections on safety implications and environmental aspects.
- Should include the NPPF's definition of sustainable development.
- Recommendations on documents to reference.

#### 4. How those issues have been addressed in the draft SPD

These representations received, and the issues they raise, have been taken into account when drafting the SPD. The following table presents the main issues, and describes how the document was drafted to address these issues.

The onshore oil and gas exploration production and distribution SPD is being prepared under section 5 a (3) of the Town and Country Planning (England) (Local Planning) Regulations 2012, the procedure for preparation is contained in Part 5. Under section 5 a (3) an SPD can only contain statements regarding "*any environmental, social, design and economic objectives which are relevant to the attainment of the development and use of land mentioned in [a Local Plan]*".

Consequently an SPD cannot contain, amongst other things, development management or site allocation policies which are intended to guide the determination of applications for planning permission. Where representations ask for the inclusion of statements that would be inappropriate under the Regulations, and it has not been possible to address the issue in the SPD in some other way, this is noted in the response section in the table below.

Main issue	How the issue has been addressed in the draft SPD
Supporting the proposed contents of the SPD	Noted.
Include reference to cross boundary impacts	Reference made in chapter 6.
Include reference to the economic benefits, and include reference to local economic strategies	Reference made in chapter 6.10.
Must cover every aspect of the subject in great detail	The regulations and guidance restrict the contents of an SPD. The SPD as drafted represents an appropriate mix of guidance and reference to other documents.
Clearly explain the relevant policies, how they will be applied, and the range of planning controls that can be used	Chapters 1-5, and appendix 3, explain the planning process, the development plan, and identify the main relevant policies. However, the application of policies will vary depending on the individual circumstances of each proposed development.  Policies in the district Local Plans will vary from authority to authority so it would be

	inappropriate to attempt to provide a comprehensive list.
Specify minimum allowable separation distances between well pads	The regulations and guidance restrict the contents of an SPD, the inclusion of separation distances within the SPD would be inappropriate under the regulations; they would be more appropriately located within a Local Plan.
Biodiversity should be extended to incorporate measures to avoid harm to international, national and locally designated sites of importance	Reference is made to existing national policy and legislation on biodiversity at chapter 6.7. Reference is also made to district Local Plans in appendix 3. Further reference would be inappropriate under the regulations.
The policy should be extended and refer to the importance of avoiding harm to the character of protected landscapes	Reference made in chapter 6.2.
The assessment of potential sites should be informed by the landscape approach	Reference made in chapter 6.2 and 6.4.
Reference documents and further guidance must be in plain English, and the links must be up to date	<p>Whilst the Council does not have any control over, or endorse the contents of, any external documents referenced, they have none the less been chosen because of their non-technical nature.</p> <p>Every effort will be made during the drafting and monitoring process to ensure links are kept up to date.</p>
The principal issues the SPD should address include (this is not an exhaustive list): water use; waste; groundwater contamination; surface water contamination; soil; emissions; air quality; flood risk; traffic; noise; landscape; visual; heritage; nature conservation designations; ecology; infrastructure; site aftercare and restoration; land stability and physical integrity of buildings; community infrastructure within 5km; adverse socio economic impacts	The SPD will provide guidance on the implementation of existing policy. Chapter 6 identifies the principal land use issues, including where appropriate those mentioned in representations.
Comparison should be made between	The SPD will provide guidance on the implementation of existing policy. This is

the impacts of fracking and renewable energy sources	outside of the scope of the SPD.
It is unclear whether it will contain reference to coal related unconventional gas.	The document relates to onshore oil and gas, which includes coal; further information is provided in appendix 4.
Must make clear that it is to provide guidance on existing policy, and cannot introduce new policy or conflict with approved policy or guidance.	As stated at the start of this chapter, the Regulations on the preparation of an SPD are clear on this point. The onshore oil and gas SPD is being prepared in accordance with these Regulations.  Reference is made in chapter 1.
Should provide benchmarks for best practice, both in terms of operations and planning application supporting information.	The SPD will provide guidance on the implementation of existing policy. Chapter 6 identifies the principal land use issues, and includes details of supporting information or mitigation that may be necessary.
The SPD should provide hooks for the Development Management committee.	As stated at the start of this chapter, the Regulations on the preparation of an SPD are clear on this point. The onshore oil and gas SPD is being prepared in accordance with these Regulations.  Reference is made in chapter 1.
The SPD should not consider the principle of oil and gas	Noted. As stated at the start of this chapter, the Regulations on the preparation of an SPD, and the NPPG, are clear on this point. The onshore oil and gas SPD is being prepared in accordance with these.
An additional objective should be added – provide an overview of government policy and objectives to bring forward new sources of supply for onshore oil and gas	Noted. Reference is made in chapter 1 to national planning policy and guidance.  None of the objectives stated will be included in the draft or final SPD, they relate to the process of preparing the SPD.
The SPD should describe the variety of consents and permits that will be required in addition to obtaining planning permissions	Further information is provided in appendix 2.
The SPD needs to clearly and accurately	Further information is provided in appendix 2



reflect the Environment Agency's role in onshore oil and gas proposals	
The SPD should make clear why it is appropriate for these forms of development to be an exception to policies restricting development in the open countryside etc.	<p>It is recognised that minerals can only be worked where they are found. It is also recognised that there is a degree of flexibility in site selection for onshore oil and gas proposals that are utilising horizontal directional drilling.</p> <p>Whether it will be appropriate for the proposal to form an exception to any policy will depend on the individual circumstances of the specific proposal, as section 38 (3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 is clear that the development plan must be read as a whole.</p>
The document should contain prominent sections on safety implications and environmental aspects	Environmental and safety are included in chapter 6 where appropriate. Many safety issues will be addressed by other regulatory regimes outside of the land use planning system, as referred to in appendix 2
Temporary needs to be defined	Temporary will be defined, through a time limiting condition on a planning permission. It is likely to vary depending on the individual circumstances of each proposed development, and it would be inappropriate to define it in the SPD.
Should include the NPPF's definition of sustainable development	<p>It is inappropriate to repeat national policy in the SPD; the NPPF is a material consideration which will be taken into account whilst considering the development plan.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Local Plan is in accordance with the NPPF, and Policy NPPF 1 of the Site Allocation and Development Management Local Plan restates the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p>
Recommendations on documents to reference.	Noted. These have been included where appropriate.

## Appendix A: Key stakeholders notified of the consultation

<b>Neighbouring Councils</b>	Todmorden Town Council
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council	Formby Parish Council
Bury Metropolitan Borough Council	Lydiate Parish Council
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council	Maghull Town Council
Craven District Council	Horwich Town Council
Cumbria County Council	Beetham Parish Council
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council	Burton-In-Kendal Parish Council
North Yorkshire County Council	Casterton Parish Council
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	Dent Parish Council
South Lakeland District Council	Hutton Roof Parish Council
St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council	Shevington Parish Council
Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council	<b>Environmental Groups</b>
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Ribble estuary against fracking
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	Frack free fylde
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council	Defendlytham
Lake District National Park Authority	Residents action on fylde fracking
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council	Roseacre Awareness Group
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	Friends of the Earth
GMGU (Urban Vision Partnership Ltd)	Greenpeace
Cheshire East Council	CPRE - Lancashire
Cheshire West and Chester Council	<b>Operators</b>
North Yorkshire County Council	Aurora Petroleum
<b>Neighbour Parish</b>	Cuadrilla Resources Ltd
Wadsworth Parish Council	UK Onshore Operators Group
Erringden Parish Council	Centrica
Melling Parish Council	<b>Government Agencies</b>
Arnside Parish Council	Health and Safety Executive
Thornton-in-Lonsdale Parish Council	Environment Agency
Kirkby Lonsdale Parish Council	Natural England
Blackrod Town Council	Coal Authority
Haworth Parish Council	Director of public health - Blackburn
Austwick Parish Council	Director of public health - Blackpool
Bentham Town Council	Director of Public Health -Lancashire
Burton-in-Lonsdale Parish Council	DECC Office for Unconventional Gas and Oil
Ingleton Parish Council	Public Health England
Blackshaw Parish Council	<b>District Councils</b>
Hebden Royd Town Council	Lancaster City Council
	Wyre Borough Council
	Ribble Valley Borough Council
	Blackpool Council
	Fylde Borough Council
	Preston City Council

South Ribble Borough Council
West Lancashire Borough Council
Chorley Borough Council
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Hyndburn Borough Council
Burnley Borough Council
Pendle Borough Council
Rossendale Borough Council
<b>Parish Councils</b>
Adlington Town Council
Altham Parish Council
Anderton Parish Council
Anglezarke Parish Council
Arkholme-with-Cawood Parish Council
Astley Village Parish Council
Aughton Parish Council
Balderstone Parish Council
Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council
Barnacre-with-Bonds Parish Council
Barnoldswick Town Council
Barrowford Parish Council
Barton Parish Council
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton and Little Mitton Parish Council
Bickerstaffe Parish Council
Billington and Langho Parish Council
Bispham Parish Meeting
Blacko Parish Council
Bleasdale Parish Council
Bolton-by-Bowland, Gisburn Forest and Sawley Parish Council
Bolton-le-Sands Parish Council
Borwick Parish Meeting
Bowland Forest Higher Division Parish Council
Bowland Forest Lower Division Parish Council
Bowland-with-Leagram Parish Council
Bracewell and Brogden Parish Meeting
Bretherton Parish Council
Briercliffe Parish Council
Brierfield Town Council
Brindle Parish Council
Broughton-in-Amounderness Parish

Council
Bryning-with-Warton Parish Council
Burrow with Burow Parish Council
Burscough Parish Council
Cabus Parish Council
Cantsfield Parish Council
Carnforth Town Council
Caton-with-Littledale Parish Council
Catterall Parish Council
Charnock Richard Parish Council
Chatburn Parish Council
Chipping Parish Council
Claughton Parish Council
Claughton-on-Brock Parish Council
Clayton-le-Dale Parish Council
Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council
Clitheroe Town Council
Cliviger Parish Council
Cockerham Parish Council
Colne Town Council
Coppull Parish Council
Croston Parish Council
Cuerden Parish Council
Dalton Parish Council
Darwen Town Council
Dinkley Parish Council
Downham Parish Council
Downholland Parish Council
Dunnockshaw and Clowbridge Parish Council
Dutton Parish Council
Earby Town Council
Eccelshill Parish Council
Ecclestone Parish Council
Ellel Parish Council
Elswick Parish Council
Euxton Parish Council
Farington Parish Council
Fleetwood Town Council
Forton Parish Council
Foulridge Parish Council
Freckleton Parish Council
Garstang Town Council
Gisburn Parish Council
Goldshaw Booth Parish Council

Goosnargh Parish Council
Great Alcar Parish Council
Great Eccleston Parish Council
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton Parish Council
Gressingham Parish Council
Grimsargh Parish Council
Grindleton Parish Council
Habergham Eaves Parish Council
Haighton Parish Council
Halsall Parish Council
Halton-with Aughton Parish Council
Hambleton Parish Council
Hapton Parish Council
Heapey Parish Council
Heath Charnock Parish Council
Heaton-with Oxcliffe Parish Council
Hesketh-with-Becconsall Parish Council
Heskin Parish Council
Higham-with-West Close Booth Parish Council
Hilldale Parish Council
Hoghton Parish Council
Hornby-with-Farleton Parish Council
Horton Parish Council
Hothersall Parish Council
Hurst Green Parish Council
Hutton Parish Council
Ightenhill Parish Council
Ingol and Tanterton Neighbourhood Council
Inskip-with-Sowerby Parish Council
Ireby and Leck Parish Council
Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council
Kirkham Town Council
Kirkland Parish Council
Laneshaw Bridge Parish Council
Lathom Parish Council
Lathom South Parish Council
Lea and Cottam Parish Council
Little Eccleston-with-Larbreck Parish Council
Little Hoole Parish Council
Livesey Parish Council

Longridge Town Council
Longton Parish Council
Mawdesley Parish Council
Medlar-with-Wesham Town Council
Melling-with-Wrayton Parish Council
Mellor Parish Council
Middleton Parish Council
Morecambe Town Council
Much Hoole Parish Council
Myerscough and Bilsborrow Parish Council
Nateby Parish Council
Nelson Town Council
Nether Kellet Parish Council
Nether Wyresdale Parish Council
Newburgh Parish Council
Newsholme Parish Council
Newton Parish Council
Newton-with-Clifton Parish Council
North Meols Parish Council
North Turton Parish Council
Old Laund Booth Parish Council
Osbaldeston Parish Council
Out Rawcliffe Parish Council
Over Kellet Parish Council
Over Wyresdale Parish Council
Overton parish Council
Padiham Town Council
Parbold Parish Council
Pendleton Parish Council
Penwortham Town Council
Pilling Parish Council
Pleasington Parish Council
Preesall Town Council – North Ward
Preesall Town Council – South Ward
Priest Hutton Parish Meeting
Quernmore Parish Council
Ramsgreave Parish Council
Reedley Hallows Parish Council
Ribby-with-Wrea Parish Council
Ribchester Parish Council
Rimington and Middop Parish Council
Rivington Parish Council
Roeburndale Parish Council
Roughlee Booth Parish Council

Rufford Parish Council
Sabden Parish Council
Saint Anne's on the Sea Town Council
Salesbury Parish Council
Salterforth Parish Council
Samlesbury and Cuerdale Parish Council
Scarisbrick Parish Council
Scotforth Parish Council
Silverdale Parish Council
Simonstone Parish Council
Simonswood Parish Council
Singleton Parish Council
Slaidburn and Easington Parish Council
Slyne-with-Hest Parish Council
Staining Parish Council
Stalmine-with-Staynall Parish Council
Tarleton Parish Council
Tatham Parish Council
Thornley-with-Wheatley Parish Council
Thurnham Parish Council
Tockholes Parish Council
Trawden Forest Parish Council
Treales, Roseacre and Wharles Parish Council
Tunstall Parish Meeting
Twiston Parish Council
Ulnes Walton Parish Council
Upholland Parish Council
Upper Rawcliffe with Tarnacre Parish Council
Waddington Parish Council
Warton Parish Council
Weeton-with-Preese Parish Council
Wennington Parish Council
West Bradford Parish Council
Westby-with-Plumptons Parish Council
Whalley Parish Council
Wheelton Parish Council
Whittingham Parish Council
Whittington Parish Council
Whittle-Le-Woods Parish Council
Whitworth Town Council
Wilpshire Parish Council

Winmarleigh Parish Council
Wiswell Parish Council
Withnell Parish Council
Woodplumpton Parish Council
Worsthorne-with-Hurstwood Parish Council
Wray-with Botton Parish Council
Wrightington Parish Council
Yate and Pickup Parish Council
Yealand Conyers Parish Council
Yealand Redmayne Parish Council

### Appendix B: Comments received

ID	Company / Organisation	Comments
Scop1	Halton with Aughton Parish Council	<p>I have two observations on your request for consultation on Oil &amp; Gas exploration within our area.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I think it important to record the benefits of such exploration which could arise both to the area and nationally.</li> <li>2. The subject is important nationally and could be of major benefit in keeping energy prices affordable. Therefore I would like to see policies agreed as soon as they can be reasonably determined. So time is of the essence in compiling the policy.</li> </ol>
Scop2	North Yorkshire County Council	<p>Thank you for consulting us in relation to your supplementary planning document on Oil and Gas.</p> <p>The only comment North Yorkshire County Council have at this stage is that the document should make reference to the cross-boundary impact of oils and gas development.</p> <p>We would be happy to comment on future stages of the document.</p>
Scop3	Brindle Parish Council	Brindle Parish Council has no comments to offer on this consultation
Scop4	Bretherton Parish Council	The Parish Council support the proposed contents of the SPD.
Scop5	Cumbria County Council	<p>Thank you for giving Cumbria County Council the opportunity to respond to your consultation.</p> <p>The Minerals &amp; Waste Planning Policy Team welcomes your intention to prepare an SPD covering onshore oil and gas. The list of proposed sections in the SPD seems quite comprehensive and we have no further suggestions at this time.</p> <p>We look forward to seeing a draft of the document later this year, and welcome the opportunity to make detailed comments on it.</p> <p>If there are any related cross-border issues that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact this office.</p>
Scop6	Private	The SPD must cover every aspect of the subject in great detail. Any potential changes or sidesteps in

	individual	the Local Plan cannot be allowed. How the LP is interpreted as regards extreme energy extraction is incredibly important to residents. They are very knowledgeable on the subject of fracking and can see through the propaganda and bribery on offer. LCC owe a duty to those that elect Councillors to take a robust attitude to the potential for abuse of the system by those with hoards of cash to throw at planning applications. The effects on rural Lancashire of a very short-term "fix" for energy supplies should not be underestimated.
Scop7	Lake District National Park Authority	I consider the draft structure of the proposed SPD is appropriate. I also suggest the SPD should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly explain the Councils requirements for all new onshore oil and gas development;</li> <li>• How the relevant policies will be applied in the determination of relevant planning applications, and</li> <li>• The range of planning controls you may use.</li> </ul>
Scop8	Private individual	I think it important to specify in the SPD a minimum allowable separation distance between well pads. This is important to preserve the rural nature of countryside areas (i.e. minimise industrialisation of these areas), and also to minimise adverse health impact of these installations. Evidence is accumulating in the US to show strong correlations of various health effects and the proximity and density of well sites.
Scop9	Natural England Consultation Service	Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 26 June 2014.  Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.  We have made a note of the policies, which will relate to the Supplementary Planning Document and have provided some detailed comments below in terms of how they can be used to provide further clarity on achieving positive outcomes for the natural environment; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CS5: Achieving Sustainable Minerals Production.</li> <li>• CS9: Achieving Sustainable Waste Management.</li> <li>• NPPF1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development.</li> <li>• DM1: Management of Waste and Extraction of Minerals.</li> <li>• DM2: Development Management.</li> </ul> <p><b>CS5: Achieving Sustainable Minerals Production.</b> We note that Policy CS5 includes criteria on natural resources including water, air, soil and biodiversity</p>

	<p>etc., Natural England believe this to be a good base to provide some further clarity within further policies within the SPD.</p> <p><b>Biodiversity</b> The section on Biodiversity should be extended incorporate measures to avoid harm to the international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity.</p> <p>International sites include: Special Protection Areas (SPAs); Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites. National sites include biological Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National Nature Reserves (NNRs). Local sites are Local Wildlife Sites (a variety of other terms are also in use).</p> <p>The potential impacts of Oil /Gas extraction upon such sites may be direct or indirect and short or long term. Cumulative impacts may also occur as a result of the combined effects of more than one operation.</p> <p>Indirect impacts may be experienced several kilometres away from Mineral operations e.g. water pollution. The key to assessing these is to understand the potential impact pathways that may exist between the development and sensitive sites. Associated interest features of the sites for e.g. Pink Footed Geese may also use the potential development sites to feed. Pink Footed Geese can fly up 20 km to feed.</p> <p>The Nature on the Map website is a useful source of information on the location and qualifying features of the international and national designations. Local Environmental Records Centres should also be of assistance and often hold information on Local Wildlife Sites.</p> <p><b>Landscape</b> We also note criteria (iv) which seeks to protect the character of Lancashire's landscapes.</p> <p>This policy could be extended and refer to the importance of avoiding harm to the character of nationally protected landscapes, such as the Forest of Bowland and Arnsdale and Silverdale Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and locally valued landscapes.</p> <p>The assessment of potential sites for oil and gas exploration should be informed by the landscape</p>
--	--



	<p>character approach. The National Character Area (NCA) profiles provide useful information. These update the national framework of Joint Character Areas and Countryside Character Areas that are used to inform LCAs. Further information is available at NCAs. The NCAs which fall within the plan area include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lancashire and Amounderness Plain,</li> <li>• Lancashire Valleys,</li> <li>• Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill,</li> <li>• Bowland Fells</li> </ul> <p>Landscape Character Assessments (LCAs) identify the different landscape elements which give a place its unique character and can help inform the location and design of new development. Further information on LCAs is at Landscape Character Assessment.</p> <p><b>Seeking opportunities to contribute to landscape restoration and enhancement.</b> The NCAs profiles identify potential opportunities for positive environmental change. LCAs also identify opportunities for landscape restoration and enhancement. These can help identify potential opportunities for aftercare and restoration in terms of landscape enhancement in an area.</p> <p>Natural England notes criteria (vii)'sensitive environmental restoration and aftercare of sites takes place, appropriate to the landscape character of the locality and the delivery of national and local biodiversity action plans'</p> <p>Natural England is very supportive of this criterion. However the SPD could expand upon this and advice that habitat creation will be delivered at a landscape scale. As well as referring to the Local Biodiversity Action Plans, policies within the SPD could encourage future development proposals to contribute to delivering national priority habitat targets. The national habitat creation target of 200,000ha, set out in the England Biodiversity Strategy, has now been broken down to provide figures for the indicative priority habitat creation and restoration potential of each National Character Area (NCA). The Onshore Oil and Gas SPD should therefore take account of the relevant NCA figures, please see those mentioned above within the landscape section.</p> <p>It is also important to recognise that restoration offers the potential for the creation of Green</p>
--	---

	<p>Infrastructure in addition to Priority Habitat. Restoration will depend on the geological soil and hydrological conditions and the proximity of the site to existing habitats and GI.</p> <p>Green infrastructure is a term used to refer to the living network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in both urban and rural areas. It is often used in an urban context to provide multiple benefits including space for recreation, access to nature, flood storage and urban cooling to support climate change mitigation, food production, wildlife habitats and health &amp; well-being improvements provided by trees, rights of way, parks, gardens, road verges, allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, rivers and wetlands.</p> <p>Green infrastructure is also relevant in a rural context, where it might additionally refer to the use of farmland, woodland, wetlands or other natural features to provide services such as flood protection, carbon storage or water purification. Green infrastructure maintains critical ecological links between town and country. Please also refer to Nature After Minerals for further guidance in aftercare and restoration.</p> <p>The SPD should consider the availability of GI and opportunities to enhance GI networks when considering sites for development.</p> <p><b>Soil</b></p> <p>Natural England suggest that a policy is included to protect Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land. Land quality varies from place to place. Information on Best and Most Versatile Agricultural land (grades 1, 2 and 3 a) is available from the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC). ALC maps are available on the MAGIC website. Not all land has been surveyed in detail and more detailed field survey may be required to inform decisions about specific sites. Further information is available here <a href="#">ALC</a>.</p> <p>The conservation and sustainable management of soils also is reflected in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), particularly in paragraphs 109 and 112. When planning authorities are considering land use change, the permanency of the impact on soils is an important consideration. Particular care over planned changes to the most potentially productive soil is needed, for the ecosystem services it supports including its role in agriculture and food production. Plan policies should therefore take account of the impact on land and soil resources and the wide range of vital functions (ecosystem services) they provide in line with paragraph 17 of the NPPF, for example to:</p>
--	--

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguard the long term capability of best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1, 2 and 3a in the Agricultural Land Classification) as a resource for the future.</li> <li>• To avoid development that would disturb or damage other soils of high environmental value (e.g. wetland and other specific soils). Ensure soil resources are conserved and managed in a sustainable way.</li> </ul> <p><b>CS9: Achieving Sustainable Waste Management</b> We note that this policy includes the following criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Natural resources including water, air, soil and biodiversity are protected from contamination in the vicinity of waste facilities and opportunities are taken to enhance them.</li> <li>(ii) The character and quality of Lancashire's landscapes and natural environment is protected from harm and enhanced.</li> </ul> <p>Natural England believe this to be a good base to provide some further clarity within further policies within the SPD in terms of sustainable waste management.</p> <p><b>NPPF1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development</b> Natural England notes that 'Policy NP1: Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development' will be used as a basis for the Supplementary Planning Document. Natural England would like to remind your authority that there are exceptions to the presumption of sustainable development, as outlined in par 119 from the NPPF, which states 'The presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraph 14) does not apply where development requiring appropriate assessment under the Birds or Habitats Directives is being considered, planned or determined'.</p> <p>May we also alert you to Par 20 from the NPPF Technical guidance which states that 'Minerals Planning authorities are expected to ensure that plan proposals do not have an unacceptable adverse effect on the natural or historic environment or health'.</p> <p><b>Policy DM1 - Management of Waste and Extraction of Minerals</b> In relation to the section on 'safeguarding of mineral resources' Natural England advise that the SPD gives further clarity to Peat not being included as a (MSA). This is due to its particularly ecological qualities and its importance as a carbon sink new peat extraction should not be included in plan or</p>
--	--	--

		<p>safeguarded.</p> <p><b>Policy DM2 - Development Management</b>  Natural England notes this policy states that proposals should seek a positive contribution to the following 'Biodiversity, geodiversity and landscape character.'</p> <p>We also note par 2.2.23 on Nature Conservation; 'Biodiversity can be affected either by habitat destruction or displacement through construction on previously undeveloped or vacant land; or through the disturbance of species on surrounding land, or impacts on neighbouring habitats, in much the same way as people (through dust, noise, pollution, light).'</p> <p>Natural England suggests that this paragraph is developed further through policies within the SPD.</p> <p>This could be achieved through seeking to protect protected species. Protected species are those species protected under domestic or European law. Further information can be found here <a href="#">Standing advice for protected species</a>. Sites containing watercourses, old buildings, significant hedgerows and substantial trees are possible habitats for protected species.</p> <p>Planning policies should also seek to avoid harm to priority habitats, ecological networks and priority and/or legally protected species populations. Priority habitats and species are those listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006 and UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). Further information is available here <a href="#">UK BAP priority species and habitats</a>.</p> <p>It may also be necessary to undertake a basic ecological survey in order to appraise the biodiversity value of any potential extraction site. A Phase 1 Habitat Survey is the commonly used standard for habitat audit and provides a starting point for determining the likely presence of important species. More information is available here <a href="#">Phase 1 Habitat Survey</a>.</p> <p>Ecological networks are coherent systems of natural habitats organised across whole landscapes so as to maintain ecological functions. A key principle is to maintain connectivity - to enable free movement and dispersal of wildlife e.g. badger routes, river corridors for the migration of fish and staging posts for migratory birds.</p>
--	--	--

		<p>Priority habitats can be found on the Nature on the Map website. Natural England does not hold records of priority or legally protected species but Local Records Centres may be able provide these.</p> <p>Natural England notes that the SPD will set out 'A description of the principal issues associated with oil and gas proposals, the land use planning objectives that are relevant, and the necessary supporting information' .</p> <p>We have inserted a checklist as an appendix, which we strongly suggest this should appear in the SPD. We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.</p> <p><b>Appendix 1</b></p> <p>The primary concerns for Natural England are the impacts on the environment and local ecology, particularly on designated sites close to drilling/exploration sites. The range of potential localised impacts include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cumulative effects of direct land take and disturbance during construction and operation</li> <li>2. Contamination of groundwater supplies or nearby aquatic ecosystems from fluids used or released during exploration and fracking</li> <li>3. Water extraction for exploration and gas extraction,</li> <li>4. The impact of released gases including methane emissions,</li> <li>5. Seismic effects.</li> <li>6. <b>Air quality impacts</b> (non ghg): There is potential for fugitive emissions of methane, the primary gas extracted by fracking. Other potential emissions from the operating plant (diesel machinery etc) or associated combustion processes (including flaring) may give rise to local elevated levels of particulates, local ozone formation and NOx emissions. Atmospheric emissions other than those from combustion processes are likely to raise only limited levels of concern in relation to localised impacts, although we would expect levels of methane emission to be minimised given its role as a precursor for ozone formation.</li> <li>7. <b>Abstraction impact:</b> estimates of the quantity of water required to enable a fracking operation range from 9000 to 29000m<sup>3</sup> water per well. This may either be provided from existing mains water supplies (as is the case at present in Lancashire) or from abstractions from groundwater or surface water. There</li> </ol>
--	--	--

		<p>may therefore be localised demands on water and hence potentially significant impacts on any freshwater ecosystems dependent on the relevant aquifer or surface water body. This potential risk and the relevant management measures are considered more fully in Annex 1. Given the volumes of water required any abstractions are likely to be licensed through the abstraction licensing regime and so involve consultation with Natural England as at present. They would therefore involve no new assessment processes beyond those already used in our abstraction consultation responses</p> <p>8. <b>Local Authorities</b> are responsible for managing any planning permission requirements. Exploration and extraction development licensing would include Natural England as consultees where there is a risk to SSSIs. These will include conditions where the regulator requires them.</p>
Scop10	Halsall Parish Council	<p>The forthcoming Supplementary Planning Document consultation in October/November 2014 is by far one of the most important consultations in recent years for residents of Lancashire and therefore as regards structure and content the point should be made now that it should be widely and suitably advertised to residents well in advance and throughout the consultation.</p> <p>The main aims of the SPD appear to be creditable provided that the further guidance and reference document are in plain English and that the links to "relevant publications" are up to date and well balanced.</p> <p>The suggested sections appear to be a good summary starting point though no doubt other sections will arise and be added and the topics expanded as the consultation progresses.</p> <p>Halsall Parish Council has set up a Working Group to report on issues relating to Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution and the Parish Council will be actively involved in the forthcoming consultation. In addition to keeping the Parish Clerk notified in this consultation and the October/November 2014 consultation, please can the Working Group be added to the mailing list.</p>
Scop11	Wyre Borough Council	<p>Thank you for consulting Wyre Council on the scoping exercise for the proposed SPD. Please find attached Wyre Council's comments on the scoping exercise for the proposed Onshore Oil and Gas SPD.</p> <p>The comments have been approved by the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director for People and Places.</p> <p>Please will you keep the Council informed about the outcome of the scoping exercise, and the</p>

		<p>arrangements for the SPD consultation later this year.</p> <p>Wyre Council agrees that preparation of the SPD is very timely. It will be essential that the further advice and guidance provides the certainty and confidence to local communities, developers and the industry about how relevant planning applications will be determined in an open and transparent manner.</p> <p>The SPD must clearly set out the interface between the planning system and other regulatory regimes, including the Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive.</p> <p>The SPD should also provide information on relevant guidance elsewhere.</p> <p>The SPD must also provide clarity about relevant material considerations that may (and may not) be taken into consideration in the determination of proposals.</p> <p>It will be essential that any decisions made are based on the latest scientific evidence and technological information.</p> <p>The Council agrees with the policies to be covered by the proposed SPD, the suggested aims and objectives, and the proposed sections. In addition to the above points, the Council would ask that the following is also taken into account in preparing the SPD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed SPD should ensure that it sets out further advice and guidance on the principal environmental, economic and social issues related to oil and gas exploration, production and distribution, and how these issues will be considered by the Joint Authorities when it comes to determination of planning applications.</li> <li>• The principal issues the SPD should address include (this is not an exhaustive list): water use; waste; groundwater contamination; surface water contamination; soil; emissions; air quality; flood risk; traffic; noise; landscape; visual; heritage; nature conservation designations; ecology; infrastructure; site aftercare and restoration.</li> <li>• Additionally, the proposed SPD should set out matters relating to economic and social issues including: links to the economic growth agenda that includes the Lancashire Strategic Economic Plan: A Growth Deal for the Arc of Prosperity and Wyre's Local Growth Plan 2014/17; links to the local labour market including opportunities for job creation; opportunities to support local training</li> </ul>
--	--	--

		<p>including working with local colleges and universities to address any identified skills gaps; opportunities to support the local supply chain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lancashire Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan (para 1.24) refers to the potential economic opportunity of shale gas, subject to regulatory confirmations, and refers to locating an 'Elite Institution' in Lancashire for shale gas as being important in establishing the sector both locally and nationally. Will the proposed SPD provide any further information on this idea?</li> <li>• Wyre's Local Growth Plan 2014/17 sets out details of the Borough's local ambitions for growth including the Key Strategic Initiative 2 'Encourage Investment and Sector Development' which includes 'support for the growth of the energy sector' and recognises "there is the potential for Wyre to raise its profile and develop as an energy hub". The proposed SPD should make appropriate and relevant reference to local economic growth strategies, such as Wyre's Local Growth Plan.</li> </ul> <p>If you require any further information about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p>
Scop12	Coal Authority	<p><b>Scope of SPD</b></p> <p>It is currently slightly unclear what the scope of the SPD will include. Whilst the term onshore oil and gas may seem clear, it needs to be clarified whether or not this relates purely to conventional hydrocarbons or if it also includes unconventional hydrocarbons. From the nature of the text it would appear that it is intended to address unconventional hydrocarbons including shale gas. The scoping document is however silent on whether or not it will address coal related unconventional hydrocarbons including Underground Coal Gasification, Abandoned Mine Methane and Coal Bed Methane.</p> <p>The Coal Authority has no particularly strong view on whether or not coal related unconventional hydrocarbons should be included within the document. National planning policy in the NPPF, advice in the National Planning Practice Guide and policies in the Lancashire MWDF provide sufficient guidance in our view on coal related unconventional hydrocarbons. However should the Joint MPAs wish to include them in the SPD for consistency or to aid local understanding then we would not object to that approach. The Coal Authority is very aware of the local sensitivity of the issue of hydrocarbons.</p> <p><b>Purpose of SPD</b></p> <p>The Coal Authority is pleased to see the scoping document makes it very clear that SPD is not the place to impose new policies or policy criterion.</p>



		<p><b>Proposed SPD Structure</b></p> <p>The scoping document makes the following suggestions as to structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction to the planning system and process, and the division of responsibilities within the wider regulatory process</li> <li>• An introduction to oil and gas processes, and links to relevant other sources of information An illustration of the licensed oil and gas areas</li> <li>• A summary of the development plan and the most relevant planning policies</li> <li>• A description of the main phases of development and the main planning considerations associated with these</li> <li>• A description of the principal issues associated with oil and gas proposals, the land use planning objectives that are relevant, and the necessary supporting information</li> </ul> <p>The Coal Authority supports this proposed structure; in particular the illustration of the current PEDL licensed areas will be helpful. PEDL licensed areas should be shown in the Local Plan on the Policies Map as required by NPPG, however the Lancashire MWDF was largely produced before this requirement was first published in the now withdrawn 2013 DCLG advice on Oil and Gas (now replaced by the NPPG).</p> <p>It is also considered imperative to set out what matters fall within the planning remit and what matters are the responsibility of other regulators. The NPPG provides helpful advice on this issue. An explanation of how the Joint MPAs will apply the NPPF approach to the respective main phases of development will also be helpful. It may also be appropriate to provide greater detail on what restoration and aftercare requirements will be necessary to comply with Policy DM2.</p> <p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>The Coal Authority welcomes the opportunity to make these early comments. We are, of course, willing to discuss relevant issues with the Joint Authorities both informally if required and formally.</p> <p>The Coal Authority looks forward to being consulted on the draft SPD in due course.</p>
Scop13	Aughton Parish Council	Aughton Parish Council would like to request consideration be given to including the following points in the SPD:

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Noise levels resulting from oil and gas exploration methods, in particular 'fracking' and consequent effect upon the local community - loss of residential amenity, including visual amenity. Consideration to be given to minimum separation distances.</li> <li>2. Potential effect of onshore operations upon the stability and physical integrity of land and buildings within the area of operational sites.</li> <li>3. Potential contamination of land caused by leaks from wells both during and well after ceasing production. Possible contamination of water supply - several public health issues to be addressed.</li> <li>4. The lasting 'footprint' upon Green Belt land which will be left long after operations have ceased. Very strong and watertight policies needed to enforce 'clean-up' and restoration of land.</li> </ol>
Scop14	Cuadrilla	<p>Representation by Cuadrilla on the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution</p> <p>This document has been prepared by Arup on behalf of Cuadrilla Resources Ltd in response to the notification of the scoping consultation on a new planning document for onshore oil and gas (hydrocarbons). The notification informs key stakeholders of the Joint Authorities' (Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities of Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Council) intention to prepare a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on onshore oil and gas exploration, production and distribution.</p> <p>The purpose of this response is to provide feedback on the proposed scope of the SPD and to advise the Joint Authorities on any further issues and information considered to be relevant for inclusion.</p> <p>The notification of scoping consultation outlines the proposed structure of the SPD, and sets out the main aims and objectives, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide further guidance on the interpretation of policy contained within the adopted Minerals and Waste Local Plan.</li> <li>• Provide a reference document for the residents of Lancashire new to the subject explaining the planning and other regulatory processes, providing links to relevant publications and sources of information.</li> </ul> <p>The notification of scoping consultation suggests six sections for inclusion in the SPD as set out below.</p>

		<p>We suggest that an additional section is incorporated at the front of the document to explain "the Scope of the SPD". This would explain the relationship of the SPD to existing and emerging policy and guidance at the local and national level. This section should make clear as set out in the correspondence on the "Notification of Scoping Consultation" that the SPD is intended "to add further detail to the policies of the local plan and provide further guidance on particular issues". It does not and cannot introduce new planning policies and it should not conflict with approved policy and guidance. The SPD should also explain that the document does not and cannot allocate or safeguard sites or areas for onshore oil and gas development or identify areas that are not considered to be suitable for oil and gas development.</p> <p>Furthermore, importantly the SPD should not consider the principle of onshore oil and gas development, but in our view could explain the Government support for new sources of gas and oil supply, as expressed in government policy and statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN1)</li> <li>• House of Commons Energy and Climate Change Committee, Shale Gas, 23rd May 2011 Written Statement to Parliament by Edward Davey, Secretary of State for Energy, 13th December 2013</li> <li>• The Myths and Realities of Shale Gas Exploration - Speech by Ed Davey Secretary of State for Energy to the Royal Society - 9th September 2013</li> <li>• House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee Report - The Economic Impact on UK Energy Policy of Shale Gas and Oil - 8th May 2014</li> </ul> <p>Response: It is our view that the stated aims and objectives are relevant for the proposed SPD as long as the guidance that emerges is consistent with policy and guidance at a local and national level. An additional objective should be added as follows: "Provide an overview of government policy and objectives to bring forward new sources of supply for onshore oil and gas".</p> <p><b>1. An introduction to the planning system and process, and the division of responsibilities within the wider regulatory process</b></p> <p>Response: The National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) asserts that the planning and other regulatory regimes are separate but complementary. Paragraph 012 (References to the NPPG are to category 27</p>
--	--	---

		<p>guidance on Minerals, unless stated otherwise) provides an introduction to the planning system stating that: "the planning system controls the development and use of land in the public interest ... this includes ensuring that new development is appropriate for its location - taking account of the effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, the natural environment or general amenity, and the potential sensitivity of the area or proposed development to adverse effects from pollution."</p> <p>The guidance advises that the focus of the planning system should be on whether the development itself is an acceptable use of the land and consideration should be given to the impact of those uses (paragraph 012).</p> <p>The NPPG acknowledges that minerals extraction is an on-going use of land and advises that the majority of the development activities will be for the Mineral Planning Authority (MPA) to address. However, separate licensing, permits or permissions relating to minerals extraction may be required (paragraph 014).</p> <p>Paragraph 109 of the NPPG provides a relevant link to the "Regulatory Roadmap: Onshore oil and gas exploration in the UK regulation and best practice" published by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in December 2013. This is a set of documents which aims to help operators understand the regulation process for onshore oil and gas (shale gas) exploration in the UK. Paragraphs 110- 112 outline the division of responsibilities within the wider regulatory process with specific regard to hydrocarbon extraction.</p> <p>Paragraph 112 advises that some hydrocarbon issues can be assessed by other regulatory regimes and MPAs should assume that these regimes will operate effectively. MPAs should be satisfied that any such issues can or will be adequately addressed by taking the advice from the relevant regulatory body. In specific circumstances, some issues covered by other regulatory regimes may still be relevant to MPAs.</p> <p>We suggest that the SPD acknowledges that the UK has a strict regulatory framework governing offshore and onshore oil and gas exploration and production. For instance it will be important to explain that any associated risks with shale exploration and production are heavily regulated and closely scrutinised by the relevant independent bodies.</p>
--	--	--

		<p>The SPD should describe the variety of consents and permits that will be required in addition to obtaining planning permissions. These consents are required before different operational stages of an onshore oil and gas project can proceed. For instance for shale gas exploration there is a need for approvals for the drilling, hydraulic fracturing and testing stages.</p> <p>We would like the SPD to make clear that an applicant and a mineral planning authority should be working with the regulators, such as The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Environment Agency (EA), from a very early stage of a project, prior to the submission of a planning application. It will be important to ensure that any consents and approvals from these bodies do not overlap or duplicate the approvals from the mineral planning authority or conflict with the consents of these bodies. Therefore in order to reduce overlap, the SPD should clarify what authorities and regulators are responsible for which aspects of the process. In our view, most of the subsurface operations should be approved by the national bodies - DECC, the Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive - with the Minerals Planning Authority focusing on surface operations and land use considerations.</p> <p>The SPD should also recognise that the Environment Agency, together with other regulatory bodies, have powers to impose conditions, halt operations, or require amendments if they are not satisfied with the proposals or operations. The SPD should clarify that it will be important to ensure that there is no overlap or duplication between the conditions imposed by these bodies and the mineral planning authority.</p> <p>Whilst the proposed section may be pertinent to the topic of the SPD, there is a risk of duplicating the existing national guidance which provides guidance introducing the planning system and process, and the division of responsibilities in the wider regulatory process. It will be important therefore to ensure that the SPD accords with this guidance and provides where appropriate clarification and interpretation to assist the applicant as well as other bodies involved in the consenting and approval processes.</p> <p><b>2. An introduction to oil and gas processes, and links to relevant other sources of information</b></p> <p>Response: The NPPG confirms that hydrocarbon extraction covers both conventional and unconventional</p>
--	--	--

	<p>hydrocarbons (paragraph 091). The guidance provides definitions of conventional and unconventional hydrocarbons and emphasises the need to establish, by means of exploratory drilling, "whether or not there are sufficient recoverable quantities of unconventional hydrocarbons such as shale gas and coalbed methane present to facilitate economically viable full scale production" (paragraph 091). A flow chart is illustrated in Annex B of the guidance, setting out the process for drilling an exploratory well, and how the key regulatory regimes interact.</p> <p>It would be helpful if the SPD provides a link to a wide range of sources of information relating to onshore oil and gas, including those that have informed the recent planning application and Environmental Statements submitted by Cuadrilla at the Roseacre Wood and Preston New Road sites. The principal sources of information that should in our view be identified are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shale gas extraction in the UK: a review of hydraulic fracturing, Royal Society and Royal Academy of Engineers, June 2012</li> <li>• Review of the Potential Public Health Impacts of Exposures to Chemical and Radioactive Pollutants as a Result of the Shale Gas Extraction Process, Public Health England, June 2014</li> <li>• House of Commons Energy and Climate Change Committee, Shale Gas, 23rd May 2011</li> <li>• House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee Report - The Economic Impact on UK Energy Policy of Shale Gas and Oil - 8th May 2014</li> <li>• UK Onshore Shale Gas Well Guidelines- UKOOG, 2013.</li> <li>• Shale Gas Engagement Charter -UKOOG, June 2013</li> <li>• Getting Shale Gas Working, Institute of Directors, June 2013</li> <li>• Gas Generation Strategy, DECC, December 2012</li> <li>• Annual Energy Statement, DECC. October 2013.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst the proposed section may be pertinent to the topic of the SPD, there is a risk of duplicating the existing national guidance which already provides guidance introducing oil and gas processes, and relevant links to other sources of information.</p> <p><b>3. An illustration of the licensed oil and gas areas</b></p> <p>Response: Paragraph 104 of the NPPG provides an external web link to DECC's "Wallmap displaying current fields</p>
--	---

and licences" which illustrates onshore licence areas currently around the UK. Whilst the NPPG provides a web link to a map illustrating the licenced oil and gas areas in the UK, it does not provide an illustration specific to the areas covered by the Joint Authorities.

It is considered that an illustration showing the licenced oil and gas areas at the local level (area covered by the Joint Authorities) may be relevant for inclusion in the proposed SPD. It should be noted that new onshore licence areas are likely to be developed in the future (including the recently announced 14th round) and there may be a risk that any such illustration contained within the SPD could become out-of-date.

#### **4. A summary of the development plan and the most relevant planning policies**

Response:

The Statutory Development Plan in place will be dependent on the local authority areas within which an application for onshore oil and gas development is located. For the recent applications submitted by Cuadrilla in late May/June 2014 the Development Plan comprises;

- Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Strategy DPD (February 2009);
- Joint Lancashire Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD (September 2013); and
- Saved policies of the Fylde Borough Local Plan (May 2003)

Other relevant policy and guidance for these applications comprise:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) - Section 13 Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals (paragraphs 142-149)
- National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) - Category 27, Section 9 Planning for Hydrocarbon extraction. Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN1)
- Emerging Fylde Local Plan to 2030.

We agree that the policies of the Site Allocation and Development Management DPD (NPPF1, DM1 and DM2) and Joint Core Strategy (CS5 and CS9), as identified in the correspondence on "notification of Scoping Consultation", are relevant for onshore oil and gas development.

		<p>In addition it would be useful for this section to explain the relevance of policy CS1 of the Joint Core Strategy. This policy confirms "minerals will only be extracted where they meet a proven need for materials with those particular specifications." It is our view that the need for unconventional gas and oil has been established at a national level and therefore this should not be a consideration of local policy or the SPD. If policy CS1 is to be taken into account in the determination of onshore oil and gas applications then there needs to be an acknowledgement that the "need" for oil and gas is "proven" at a national level, as confirmed within national policy and guidance.</p> <p>At a local level there is policy that seeks to restrict development within rural or countryside areas to specific types of development (e.g. policy SP2 of the Fylde Borough Local Plan). As onshore oil and gas development as well as other types of mineral developments are unlikely to be referred to within these policies the SPD should make clear why it is appropriate for these forms of development to be an exception to these policies. It is suggested that the SPD should state that an exception should be made to these policies given the temporary nature of on shore oil and gas operations and the national need to explore and ultimately recover mineral resources where they occur. In summary government policy, need and the particular locational demands of onshore oil and gas are important material considerations that justify a departure from policies that restrict development within rural and countryside areas.</p> <p>As there is no existing guidance summarising the development plan and building on and interpreting local policy, it is considered that this section would be relevant for inclusion within the proposed SPD. It is important though that the principles of an SPD, as set out at the beginning of this paper, are recognised: that is the SPD should not introduce new planning policies and it should not conflict with approved policy and guidance</p> <p><b>5. A description of the main phases of development and the main planning considerations associated with these</b></p> <p>Response: The NPPG states that the three phases on onshore hydrocarbon extraction are: exploration, testing (appraisal) and production (paragraph 092). Paragraphs 095 to 103 expands upon each phase of development.</p>
--	--	---



		<p>Paragraph 093 asserts that "planning permission is required for each phase of hydrocarbon extraction, although some initial seismic work may have deemed planning consent under Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995." The guidance goes on to state that a single planning application is able to cover more than one phase of hydrocarbon extraction (paragraph 094).</p> <p>The NPPG outlines when an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is likely to be required for hydrocarbon extraction proposals (paragraph 119). It advises that applications for the exploratory, appraisal and production phases are all likely to fall under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011, and therefore should be screened for likely significant effects. An EIA is required if the project is likely to have significant environmental effects, and paragraph 030 sets out a flow chart summarising the screening process. The guidance asserts that all applications must be assessed on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>In addition, the guidance emphasises the importance for MPAs to ensure that applicants deliver sound restoration and aftercare proposals through the imposition of planning conditions and, where necessary planning obligations (paragraphs 041 and 127). Paragraph 038 outlines the appropriate stages that MPAs should consider when preparing restoration and aftercare conditions, whilst paragraph 040 advises on the level of detail that should be provided within the planning application in relation to restoration and aftercare.</p> <p>In addition there is material provided with the Planning Statement (Chapter 4) and Environmental Statement (Chapter 3) of the recently submitted planning applications for shale gas exploration by Cuadrilla, which provide detailed description of shale gas exploration. Although these descriptions are site specific and respond to the requirements for exploration at these locations (with up to four wells) there are elements of these proposals that are likely to be common to other onshore shale gas exploration proposals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well pad construction and use of impermeable liners and storage of top soil in mounds around the sites</li> <li>• Drilling of wells and use of multiple casings and cementing of wells for containment purposes</li> <li>• A sequential approach to drilling, hydraulic fracturing and initial flow testing of a well</li> </ul>
--	--	---

- The potential for extended flow testing where a connection to the national gas grid network can be made The plugging and abandonment of wells and the restoration of sites.

It is our view that any description of the phases of development is indicative and does not seek to provide a prescribed approach or sequence of works and operations for oil or gas development. This is due to the need to allow flexibility for an operator to adjust the methods of working and operations to respond to the characteristics of a site and to respond to changing practices, methods of working and technological advances.

There are three issues associated with onshore oil and gas exploration and production that we believe are important to address within the SPD, as set out below:

1. **Investigations and surveys.** Initial investigations and surveys are often taken in advance of the exploration stage and need to be acknowledged as an important stage in the process. For example for shale gas exploration the use of "advanced imaging technology" was used to map the layers of rock in the region improving knowledge of subsurface geology. For the shale gas exploration works in the Fylde area of Lancashire a 3-dimensional (3D) geophysical seismic survey was undertaken over an area of approximately 100 km<sup>2</sup>, to better identify the locations of geological faults and potentially workable strata in advance of proposals for hydraulic fracturing of the shale. This 3D seismic survey allows for the identification of the depths of rocks, particularly the shale, in far greater detail and target potential hydraulic fracturing work more accurately. Many of these initial investigations and surveys can be undertaken under permitted development rights.

2. **Horizontal Drilling.** This should explain that the concept of horizontal drilling is not new, and has been used extensively in the gas and oil industry. Drilling a horizontal well involves curving the path of the well, gradually moving from a vertical to a horizontal path. The same stringent environmental and safety measures on directional wells are used for horizontal drilling as apply to vertical wells. The principal benefit of directional drilling is that mineral resources can be extracted at significant distances (2 kilometres or more) from the point of surface activity, thereby avoiding development activity at the surface and avoiding any impacts within environmentally sensitive locations.

3. **Hydraulic Fracturing.** Hydraulic fracturing is an established technology that has been used in the oil and gas industries for many decades, as confirmed by the Royal Society (Shale gas extraction in the UK: a review of hydraulic fracturing, Royal Society and Royal Academy of Engineers, June 2012). The Royal Society also concluded that "The health, safety and environmental risks associated with hydraulic

		<p>fracturing (often termed 'fracking') as a means to extract shale gas can be managed effectively in the UK as long as operational best practices are implemented and enforced through regulation".</p> <p>4. <b>Seismic Monitoring Works.</b> The Royal Society has recommended that seismicity should be monitored before, during and after hydraulic fracturing. Traffic light monitoring systems should be implemented and data fed back to well injection operations so that action can be taken to mitigate any induced seismicity.</p> <p>It is considered that whilst the proposed section may be pertinent to the topic of the SPD, there is a risk of duplicating the existing national guidance which already addresses the main phases of development and associated planning considerations. Nevertheless there is scope to build on existing guidance as set out above.</p> <p><b>6. A description of the principal issues associated with oil and gas proposals, the land use planning objectives that are relevant, and the necessary supporting information</b></p> <p>Response: Principal Issues The NPPG provides a list of 21 principal environmental issues relating to minerals working that should be addressed by MPAs, noting that not all issues will be relevant to every site to the same degree (paragraph 013). Where EIA is required these issues will be addressed as part of the EIA scoping process.</p> <p>Further planning guidance of some of the listed environmental issues is provided in different categories of the NPPG (e.g. category 42 provides further guidance on traffic and category 7 provides further guidance on flood risk) which can be accessed through relevant links on the web-based resource. However, there remain a number of environmental issues of mineral working which are not further explained within the NPPG (e.g. geological structure, soil resources and water abstraction).</p> <p>Paragraph 112 of the NPPG outlines the hydrocarbon issues that can be addressed by other regulatory regimes.</p> <p>The NPPG provides a list of the environmental issues that should be addressed by MPAs relating to all types of minerals working. Furthermore, the NPPG details hydrocarbon issues that can be addressed by</p>
--	--	---

	<p>other regulatory regimes. Where EIA is required the issues to be considered as part of the EIA will be identified as part of the Scoping process and set out within a Scoping Opinion.</p> <p>There would be merit in the SPD identifying the types of environmental issues that are relevant to oil and gas proposals as long as this is consistent with the issues identified in the NPPG. The SPD should also make clear that there are some issues that are not material to the determination of a planning application or relevant for EIA (e.g. property issues). The SPD should also identify which regulators are responsible for addressing each issue and providing an appropriate description for those issues for which the mineral planning authority has responsibility.</p> <p><b>Land Use Planning Objectives</b></p> <p>The NPPG outlines the land use planning objectives for hydrocarbon extraction (paragraphs 104 -108). Paragraph 104 asserts that hydrocarbon extraction "can only take place in areas where the Department of Energy and Climate Change have issued a licence under the Petroleum Act 1998 (Petroleum Licence)".</p> <p>The guidance advises on how MPAs should make appropriate provision for hydrocarbons in local mineral plans, emphasising the importance to highlight areas where proposals for hydrocarbon extraction may come forward, as well as managing potentially conflicting objectives for use of land (paragraph 105).</p> <p>Paragraph 107 confirms that MPA local plans should identify existing hydrocarbon extraction sites, as well as specific locations which the onshore oil and gas industry wish to promote. Although it should be recognised that the guidance contained at paragraphs 105 and 107 is aimed at the preparation of Mineral Local Plans and not relevant for SPDs.</p> <p>The Development Plan predates the current national land use planning objectives. As such, the Development Plan is silent and out-of-date in regard to land use and hydrocarbon exploration and extraction. We are of the view that the land use planning objectives for onshore oil and gas are already set out clearly within National Policy and Guidance. The SPD can reaffirm the national policy and guidance at the local level but the SPD should not seek to replace, revise or add to these objectives. Any new or revised objectives along with the identification of any potential locations or areas for hydrocarbon extraction sites may be relevant for inclusion within a Local Minerals Plan but are not relevant for an</p>
--	--

		SPD.
Scop15	Private individual	I agree that people need to know the positives and negatives of what shale gas is and what it can be used for. As much detail as possible needs to be explained to anyone who can be affected so it is fully understood and then any decisions can be made accordingly. I think that what is included is good and fair, people need to know as much as they can about shale gas both positives and negatives. They need to understand the processes of what will/is happening to prevent any unnecessary protests that could occur.
Scop16	Anderton Parish Council	Anderton Parish Council has considered the proposed Supplementary Planning Document on which you are consulting and wishes to make the following comment. The council considers that in view of the role of the document to provide a reference source for residents of Lancashire, the document should contain prominent sections on :- a) Safety Implications b) Environmental Aspects We believe that these are two important issues that will be of concern to residents and should be specifically drawn out from the Local Plan policies.
Scop17	Lancaster City Council	<p>Management Team is recommended to note the report, and welcome the intention of Lancashire County Council to prepare and consult on a Supplementary Planning Document on onshore oil and gas exploration, production and distribution.</p> <p><b>1. Introduction</b></p> <p>The minerals and waste planning authorities of Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (the Joint Authorities) intend to prepare a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution.</p> <p>An SPD can be prepared to add further detail to the policies in the local plan and provide further guidance on particular issues. It cannot introduce new planning policies; they can only be contained in a local plan.</p> <p>The proposed SPD will provide guidance on the interpretation and application of the policies in the adopted Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Site Allocation and Development Management Local Plan, describing how these policies can be applied to developments for onshore oil and gas exploration, production and distribution. It will relate to the implementation of the following Local Plan policies:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CS5: Achieving Sustainable Minerals Production</li> <li>• CS9: Achieving Sustainable Waste Management</li> <li>• DM1: Management of Waste and Extraction of Minerals</li> <li>• DM2: Development Management</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Scoping the Supplementary Planning Document</b></p> <p>At this stage the County Council is consulting on the scope and level of detail that should be included in the SPD. This consultation seeks to ensure any issues which may influence the content of the document are identified at the beginning of the drafting process.</p> <p>Later in the year there will be an opportunity to make detailed comments on a consultation draft SPD, during an eight week consultation. Key dates for the production of the SPD are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scoping consultation - 27 June to 25 July 2014</li> <li>• Preparation of SPD following scoping - summer 2014</li> <li>• Reports to Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning and the responsible Executive Member at each of the Joint Authorities - September 2014</li> <li>• Consultation by Lancashire County Council on the draft SPD: October - November 2014</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Proposed structure of the Supplementary Planning Document</b></p> <p>The main aims and objectives of the SPD are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide further guidance on the interpretation of policy contained within the adopted Minerals and Waste Local Plan</li> <li>• Provide a reference document for the residents of Lancashire new to the subject explaining the planning and other regulatory processes, providing links to relevant publications and sources of information</li> </ul> <p>The County Council propose that the SPD will include the following sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction to the planning system and process, and the division of responsibilities within the wider regulatory process</li> <li>• An introduction to oil and gas processes, and links to relevant other sources of information An</li> </ul>
--	--	--

		<p>illustration of the licensed oil and gas areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A summary of the development plan and the most relevant planning policies</li> <li>• A description of the main phases of development and the main planning considerations associated with these</li> <li>• A description of the principal issues associated with oil and gas proposals, the land use planning objectives that are relevant, and the necessary supporting information</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Implications for Lancaster City Council</b></p> <p>Recent years have seen a growth in on shore oil and gas exploration, related in part to the government's policy of improving national energy security, but also to technological advances which have included hydraulic fracturing (fracking) of deep deposits of shale rock in order to obtain gas. Oil and gas exploration requires licencing and from the Department of Energy and Climate Change, regulation from the Health &amp; Safety Executive, and planning consent from the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority.</p> <p>Until very recently, most oil or gas exploration in Lancashire was confined to a series of test drilling locations in Fylde district. Licences and planning consents have been issued in Fylde for exploration only, and the test drilling is designed to assess the scope for the commercial extraction of shale gas deposits trapped in rocks in a geological area known as the Bowland Basin. The northern-most limit of the Bowland Basin lies just to the south of Lancaster district, and so hitherto no licences have been sought in the district.</p> <p>The Department of Energy and Climate Change has indicated that it will be issuing further licences for oil and gas exploration during the summer. As these licences may include other areas in Lancashire outside the Bowland Basin, it is timely that Lancashire County Council propose to produce an SPD on this subject.</p> <p><b>5. Conclusion</b></p> <p>Lancashire County Council is consulting on a proposal to produce a Supplementary Planning Document on onshore oil and gas exploration. The County Council is asking for views on the scope of the proposed SPD and suggestions on its content.</p> <p>The view of planning officers is that the proposed content is logical and will help to provide further</p>
--	--	--

		<p>guidance on this important topic. The only feedback that might be offered is to say that the SPD should make reference to the potential for further areas within the county to be licenced for oil and gas exploration. At the time when the SPD is prepared, the County Council propose a further eight week consultation period on the detailed draft.</p> <p>At that stage it will be necessary to involve elected members, as directed by Management Team.</p>
Scop18	Roseacre Awareness Group	<p>I am really sorry but our group has not been able to give sufficient attention to this document as we would have liked due to our other commitments relating to our objections to Cuadrilla's actual planning applications and our comments back to the EA and HSE (not yet submitted I might add). Further we are a residents group and not fully conversant with planning policy.</p> <p>However we do defer to the comments you will receive in due course (if you haven't already) from our Parish Council (Wharles, Roseacre and Treales). We have been working closely with them on planning issues and are in accordance/agreement with their views.</p> <p>The only things I would like to draw your attention to are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The SPD should take account of cumulative impacts. How can you assess in isolation when potentially there could be hundred or more sites and thousands of wells across Lancashire? We all know once one site is approved it will set a precedent for all others.</li> <li>2. Must consider implications of more than one site being operational at the same time and the likely impact, for example on traffic, wildlife, emissions, noise, visual and light intrusion.</li> <li>3. The SPD must take account of local community infrastructure and the potential impacts up to a given radius (5km). Cuadrilla have only looked within 1km which is not suitable for a rural community which by its nature is dispersed over a larger area. What impact would the development have on the existing community infrastructure?</li> <li>4. The SPD should make reference to any adverse impacts in socio economic terms. For example, potential loss of revenue and jobs in existing sectors such as agriculture and tourism.</li> <li>5. What is classed as 'temporary' needs better definition. Such a development could effectively run for many years.</li> <li>6. Need to better define what is classed as 'exploratory' as opposed to 'appraisal' or 'production'. UKOOG's own Community Charter clearly states a site is classed as 'Production' once pipes are installed to connect to mains gas. Clearly the current applications state they will</li> </ol>



		<p>connect to the gas mains so surely this cannot be defined as 'exploratory'.</p> <p>7. There is an overwhelming feeling that the local community has no say whatsoever in this development yet there is a vociferous objection to this being done in a quiet, tranquil situation in the heart of rural Fylde. These sites, if allowed to proceed, will be visible from all aspects including the M55, A583 and the distant fells. How is that taken account of when determining against a mineral and waste policy and presumption in favour of the applicant?</p> <p>8. Should the planning policies not refer to the EU Convention of Human Rights and ensure it meets these?</p> <p>It is clear to me there needs to be much more explicit guidance relating to shale gas and that it needs interlinking with the EA and HSE as cannot operate one without the other.</p> <p>In conclusion, we believe the SPD should make suitable allowances/guidance to take into account the local community views and, if the local community do not want it, then the development should not be allowed to go ahead. This is not a suitable area for an industrial complex/development (residents have been refused to build conservatories here) and threatens our very rural heritage and what makes us proud to live here. The Planning Guidance should protect us and not leave us at the mercy of greedy, energy hungry companies who care not a jot for local residents. I do not make any apologies for our views. We feel this industry has far too many inherent dangers and risks both to the environment and our health and wellbeing and we are being totally stitched up.</p> <p>The Planning Guidance should give preference to resident's views.</p> <p>Can you please ensure that the policy guidance does reflect this in whatever way.</p>
Scop19	Medlar with Wesham Parish Council	<p>Medlar-with -Wesham Town Council (the Council) at a meeting held on Tuesday July 15th 2014, unanimously resolved to place on record their objection to the processes involved with Shale Gas Exploration ultimately leading to the Production phase.</p> <p>The Council is aware that there is a substantial amount of divided opinion on the subject, however, they are specifically opposed, at this time, to the proposed applications to drill and hydraulically fracture at Roseacre Wood, and Preston New Road, Little Plumpton and also the entire procedure at any location in the Fylde and the wider area.</p>

		<p>After careful consideration of the pros and cons for Shale Gas Exploration, the Council has concluded that despite assurances from Cuadrilla, that the procedures will be properly managed, the potential for major problems outweigh the benefits.</p> <p>A recent report from the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health has called into question the regulatory system, stating that "Major shortcomings in regulatory oversight regarding local environment and public health risks" has increased the Council's concerns.</p> <p>The Council has come to this conclusion for the following non-exhaustive reasons: -</p> <p><b>Induced Seismicity</b> Previous attempts in the Fylde area to drill and "Frack" have caused earth tremors. The Council are concerned about the potential for such earth tremors despite the so called 'traffic light system'. Such tremors have the ability to damage property and associated services such as septic tanks. Any such damage to underground services could result in pollution to watercourses. Cuadrillas response to this fear is to promote increased insurance cover.</p> <p><b>Air, Land and Aquifer Pollution Risk</b> The Council has concerns for gas emissions especially methane levels as the result of 'burn off' which burns off methane gas and causes air pollution. It is known that flaring leads to over 250 pollutants. The potential for land contamination is huge.</p> <p>Although the wells can be built to a standard it is documented that 5% of wells leak in the first year and 100% fail eventually. Any such failure of the well will result in an increase in toxins and contaminates potentially reaching aquifers and agricultural land.</p> <p><b>Light pollution</b> Given that the process is a 24/7 activity light pollution is of concern to the Council.</p> <p><b>Flow back water</b> Of significant concern to the Council is the arrangement for the transportation and safe disposal of flow</p>
--	--	--

		<p>backwater. In addition to the disposal of such contaminated water there are concerns for the possible on site leakage or spillage during disposal activities or transportation. Unanswered questions about the locations where the water treatment will be conducted are of concern for the Council. Questions remain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the plans for this?</li> <li>• Where will it be treated?</li> <li>• Will it be taken away?</li> <li>• Are there plans for a water treatment plant to be constructed in Lancashire?</li> <li>• If so, will this area become the disposal area for other sites in the UK?</li> </ul> <p><b>Vehicle Movements</b></p> <p>It is inevitable that there will be increased traffic at various stages of the development. In the case of Roseacre and Little Plumpton, the increased use of vehicles, particularly HGV'S along the A585 will exacerbate an already existing problem and at peak times create further problems at the M55 junction 3.</p> <p>The Roseacre site is specifically unsuitable given the nature of the narrow rural road network which in some cases is limited to single vehicle access often used by the rural communities for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.</p> <p><b>Noise</b></p> <p>The continuous operation of the exploration sites will inevitably lead to an increase in ambient noise levels. Of the two sites, the Roseacre community one will be the worst affected area with noise sources from increased traffic and the site equipment. Potentially similar operations will occur at many other sites within short distances from Medlar-with-Wesham where the Council's concerns would be even more relevant.</p> <p><b>Water supplies</b></p> <p>The Council understands that each well requires levels of water into the millions of gallons for both the exploration stages and ultimate production phases. The Council has concern for the potential impact this could have on residential supplies.</p> <p><b>Visual Impact</b></p> <p>The Council does not consider that the visual impact on rural areas can be minimised by the very nature</p>
--	--	--

		<p>of the industrial requirements of the shale gas operations.</p> <p><b>Property values and insurance</b> The Council is concerned that all the adverse publicity will have a detrimental impact on property values and insurance rates. People will not want to move to this area with all the uncertainty and media attention. Many residents in the proposed areas have already expressed concern about the effect on the value of their properties as the result of both the appearance of fracking operations and the associated engineering works.</p> <p><b>Future Site Expansion</b> It is acknowledged that the two sites are in the 'exploratory' phase, which could quite conceivably result in production with an increase in the number of well heads, constructed. Inevitably this will lead to further noise, traffic and potential pollution risks.</p> <p><b>Impact on local wildlife</b> The areas are home to wintering and migrating birds, birds of prey, game birds, many types of garden birds, bats and many others. The Council has concern for what will be the impact be on local wildlife from the increased noise, traffic and lighting. We understand the CPRE, the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, WWT, RSPB and other organisations have similar concerns.</p>
Scop20	Environment Agency	<p>Thank you for consulting us on the scope of the proposed Onshore Oil and Gas Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).</p> <p>We have reviewed the proposed aims, objectives and content of the SPD and we have no objections in principle to the proposals, however we would offer the following comments:-</p> <p>The SPD needs to clearly and accurately reflect our role in onshore oil and gas proposals. As you will be aware, the Environment Agency is a statutory consultee in the planning process. We are responsible for providing advice and guidance to local planning authorities on matters that relate to our remit through consultations on strategic plans and planning applications. However, we are also an environmental regulator responsible for determining applications for permits and consents under separate regulatory regimes, some of which will apply to onshore oil and gas proposals. Should the SPD not clearly define our roles and responsibilities, it could potentially cause confusion amongst the community and other</p>

		<p>stakeholders.</p> <p>We would also suggest that in relation to identifying the main planning issues associated with development proposals of this nature, it may also be beneficial for the SPD to identify</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) those planning issues that may also be considerations through other regulatory regimes; and</li> <li>b) any issues which may not be material to the determination of the planning applications but which may be considerations through other regulatory regimes</li> </ul> <p>Given the potential significance of this SPD and the importance of accurately understanding and describing the roles and responsibilities of different regulators involved in onshore oil and gas proposals, we would be happy to meet with you to provide any further advice and guidance that we can which may help you in the preparation of this document.</p> <p>Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss this matter further and/or arrange a meeting if it would be of benefit to you.</p>
Scop21	Treales, Roseacre and Wharles Parish Council	<p>Scope &amp; Content</p> <p>We believe that the scope should include the NPPF Introduction - which provides the definitions of Sustainable Development. It is important to ensure that both the definitions of Development and Sustainable are given equal consideration in context of the Application site.</p> <p>NPPF 1.</p> <p>The scope of the 'Economy' needs to be explicit in the context of the Application site. A planning policy considered at this level, The Economy is logically that which applies to the principally affected community: i.e., within a few hundred metres of the application site. For example, in respect of the Cuadrilla Roseacre Wood Application, the impact on the economy of the affected community adjacent to the site of the Parish of Roseacre, Wharles &amp;Treales and those adjacent to the access route from M55 Junction 3 via Medlar, Wesham, Kirkham, Newton, Scales, Clifton, Salwick, Treales and Wharles, as opposed to the District, County, Regional or National aspects. Paragraphs 18-22 need to demonstrate the specific benefits against the negative impacts of that scope of the economy.</p> <p>The advice given as 'Best Available Techniques' needs to consider the implications of the rate of</p>

	<p>progress in this industry to ensure that the regulations and advice to regulators match current technology and expectations of the local community.</p> <p>The approach to all Shale and Gas planning applications should reflect the long term nature of the exploration process and require appropriate standards to be applied to ensure local communities are not adversely affected thus avoiding nuisance complaints to the local authority.</p> <p>The applicant must assess the 'worst case' impact where mitigation is considered as a possibility in the planning application in order to avoid unnecessary and expensive rectification in the event that the mitigation proves unsuccessful.</p> <p>NPPF 2 – Where Applications are in the vicinity of settlement boundaries 'in the absence of a definitive boundary of towns in the context of the NPPF' then paragraphs 23-27 should be applied.</p> <p>NPPF 3 – Paragraph 28: Applications should be subject to assessment to both the creation of job growth and prosperity. The asset value of individuals within the affected community (see above), is a material consideration in the sustainability of the materially affected economy.</p> <p>NPPF4 – The industrial process of Hydraulic Fracturing as currently proposed generates a significant amount of movement. Paragraphs 29-41 need to be applied. In the case of developments on the Fylde, the impacts on sub-surface, surface, above surface &amp; sea methods of transportation need to be considered. The impact of vehicular traffic needs to assess not only the route chosen by the applicant in terms of impact on the community but also the 'secondary' effects associated with the diversion of current traffic to avoid congestion hot spots on other routes as this may expose additional, currently unaffected, receptors. In particular these alternative routes should pay particular attention to the impact on schools, the elderly and minor routes and the risks associated. Where National policies are applied in favour of transport infrastructure over favouring the acceptability to local communities for oil and gas developments in respect of MPA and Local Planning Policies, then national interests are, on balance, to be considered not be presumed to be in favour of oil and gas development at an Application site.</p>
--	--

		<p><b>NPPF 5</b> This needs to be fully considered e.g. In the Fylde there are strategic communications infrastructures in place.</p> <p><b>NPPF 6</b> Given the complexity and controversial nature of onshore oil and gas developments, the ability to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes in the vicinity of an Application site needs to be considered as per Paragraphs 47-55.</p> <p><b>NPPF 7</b> Given the complexity and controversial nature of onshore oil and gas developments, the ability to deliver high quality outcomes needs to be considered, with particular reference to Paragraph 59, 64, 65, 66, and 68.</p> <p><b>NPPF 8</b> Given the complexity and controversial nature of onshore oil and gas developments, the ability to promote Health Communities needs to be fully considered, as per the applicable paragraphs 68-78.</p> <p><b>NPPF 9, 10, 11,12,</b> Given the complexity and controversial nature of onshore oil and gas developments, the ability to protect Green Belts needs to be fully considered, as per the applicable paragraphs In addition para 163 - Minerals, 165 - Environment, and paras 171, 172, 173-177, 178-181</p> <p><b>Applicable Local Plan</b> To fully consider the applicable Local Plan. In the case of the Cuadrilla Roseacre Wood development the Fylde Adopted Plans and Emerging Plans need to be considered with applicable weight.</p> <p><b>Additionally:-</b> The Cumulative, interrelationships between projects (e.g. Little Plumpton &amp; Roseacre Wood project Plans)</p>
--	--	---

		<p>The extended nature of oil and gas development - The accessibility of shale gas - The Bowland Field stretches from Whitby to Wrexham, so there are many discretionary resource access points. The approach to all Shale and Gas planning applications should reflect the long term nature of the exploration process and require appropriate standards to be applied to ensure local communities are not adversely affected thus avoiding nuisance complaints to the local authority.</p> <p>Once the principle of development is established at a particular Application site, it would, on balance, be difficult for a planning authority to resist further development. On that basis, an application for development is, on balance, one that will permanently change the development status of an application site. This is not temporary.</p> <p>The Well is a permanent feature of the site. The extended nature of oil and gas development</p>
Scop22	West Lancashire Borough Council	<p>I write on behalf of West Lancashire Borough Council to confirm that we are satisfied with the structure and general content of the proposed SPD.</p>
Scop23 (late)	Fylde Borough Council	<p>I am writing in response to your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2014 regarding the scope and level of detail that should be included in the SPD. I must apologise for the delay in responding to your letter.</p> <p>It is understood that later in 2014 there will be an opportunity to make detailed comments on a consultation draft SPD, which will be prepared jointly by Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (the Joint Authorities).</p> <p>Fylde Council would like to see the SPD setting out benchmarks for best practice in terms of the level of information that developers will be required to submit with applications for onshore oil and gas; together with setting high standards for the day to day management of the onshore oil and gas facilities.</p> <p>Fylde Council would expect the SPD to incorporate environmental protection and conservation as underlying themes running through the document and to include the following headings. The headings will also prove hooks for both developers submitting proposed schemes and for the Development Management officers and Committee members when determining planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hydrology</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pollution of groundwater</li> <li>• pollution of surface water</li> <li>• development and waste water</li> <li>• development within floodplains</li> <li>• managing water resources</li> <li>• air pollution (including mitigation measures)</li> <li>• noise pollution (including mitigation measures)</li> <li>• light pollution (including mitigation measures)</li> <li>• landscape character</li> <li>• protection of trees, hedgerows and woodlands</li> <li>• protection of coastline and sand dunes</li> <li>• heritage assets</li> <li>• development within the setting or curtilage of listed buildings</li> <li>• development affecting conservation areas</li> <li>• development affecting archaeological features</li> <li>• development affecting historic parks and gardens</li> <li>• development affecting features and artefacts of local importance</li> <li>• protection of agricultural land (ie best and most versatile)</li> <li>• building design (ie the design of the above ground structures, which do not constitute permitted development)</li> <li>• traffic management (ie the movements of heavy goods vehicles along country lanes)</li> </ul> <p>I hope that this information is helpful.</p>
Scop24 (late)	Woodplumpton Parish Council	<p>I apologise if this is too late for consideration but due to the cycle of meetings, Woodplumpton Parish Council has only recently considered your email below.</p> <p>Members <b>resolved</b> to request that the SPD includes some background and comparisons regarding fracking and other renewable energy sources such as solar, tidal, wind and water and an analysis of the likelihood of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pollution - by air, land and water,</li> <li>• nuisance – noise, smell, light, vibration and visual impact</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• environmental impact – on flora, fauna and wildlife</li><li>• increased road usage - in terms of transportation and weight restrictions</li></ul> <p>Members also requested that the SPD contained reference to the health and safety implications and what weight will be given to this when determining planning applications and what consultation / reassurance will be given to local communities – not just during the planning application process - but also with regard to the monitoring and recording of any 'activity' if sites are approved.</p>
--	--	---