

Dronfield Town Council

Clerk to the Council:
Andrew Tristram



Dronfield Civic Hall
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Dronfield
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Telephone: 01246 418573

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Website: www.dronfield.gov.uk

16 February 2017

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Clark

Shale Gas Extraction (Fracking)

On behalf of Dronfield Town Council, I have been asked to contact you to inform you of the Council's opposition to the extraction of shale gas (fracking) in Dronfield and the surrounding area.

The reasons are as follows:

- a) There is a strong and serious argument challenging the safety of fracking on a range of grounds, which has led some countries to ban it or at least postpone it until further research is accomplished. We have concerns that Fracking could potentially damage people's health and the environment.
- b) We believe that Fracking is not appropriate for densely populated areas such as Dronfield. It is believed that fracking would damage the surrounding landscape and have a detrimental effect on our surrounding Greenbelt.
- c) There is a risk of groundwater contamination from hazardous substances used in the fracking fluid.
- d) Fracking involves transfer of gas over long distance underground, without homeowner's approval.
- e) The process requires large volumes of water which will need to be transported to the site, and then away from the site for recycling if there are no facilities on site.
- f) We believe that regulation in the UK is not rigorous enough to guarantee safety for our residents.

These concerns have also been submitted to Derbyshire County Council as part of its consultation for the Derby and Derbyshire Local Mineral Plan.

Dronfield Town Council considers that the detrimental effect on the community, and the negative impact in the infrastructure of a highly populated area, represents an unacceptable and hazardous risk.

The council would also inform you of the concerns raised with the Environment Agency about the lack of publicity for the consultation event in Dronfield that took place on 15 September 2016.

We would like to request that future consultation events meet a minimum requirement to create awareness across a mix of different media (e.g. local press, radio, website, social media and posters/leaflets in public areas) in order to demonstrate that they have made every effort to reach the maximum number of residents.

We would be grateful if you acknowledge our concerns and request for more effective publicity for consultation and information events.

Yours faithfully

Town Clerk
Dronfield Town Council

Quality Service from a Quality Council



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16 February 2017

Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mrs Leadsom

Shale Gas Extraction (Fracking)

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16 February 2017

Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Javid

Shale Gas Extraction (Fracking)

On behalf of Dronfield Town Council, I have been asked to contact you to ask that you respect the wishes of local residents and their elected representatives in any decision they come to on applications for shale gas extraction (fracking) and not overturn any democratic decision that is voted on by elected members when applications are considered at the planning committee.

We would be grateful if you acknowledge our request and let us have your assurance that you will accept any local decision.

Yours faithfully

Town Clerk
Dronfield Town Council