

## Activity 4B: Policy Development – Construction Site Impacts

### The issue

Developments can have a significant impact on the local environment and community during their construction phase. Environmentally, they use resources that are related solely with the construction process. Energy, water and temporary timber are used on site and large quantities of materials are required to be transported using fuel. In terms of social impact, they create disturbance, dust and vibration.

Whilst there are schemes and measures that can be applied to influence these factors, they are largely voluntary

### NPPF guidance

None

### What would a policy seek to achieve?

Is there a need to go further than regulations covered elsewhere in the construction industry?

Is the energy and water used during construction significant enough to warrant measures to reduce it when compared to the life of the building or the total consumption of the area? Is this relevant as we should seek to reduce emissions wherever they occur?

### Would the policy suit being flexible or can a more rigid policy be implemented?

There would be a need to take account of the scale of the development.

Would the policy need to take account of the density of development that is occurring in an area? One construction site can be endured but a cluster or sequence in one locality might cause problems.

### What issues or elements of sustainability could a policy conflict with?

Attempting to improve the construction processes could impact on the choice of materials for the building with a detrimental effect on their environmental sustainability.

### How could the policy be made implementable?

Initial ideas to promote discussion:

- Contractors required to register with Considerate Contractors and achieve an acceptable level
- Contractors required monitor, benchmark and report on energy and water use.
- How could the policy be evidenced?