

Why a UK Minerals Strategy?

Minerals are essential to the UK economy – *No Minerals, No Economy*

The significance of minerals to the economy is not currently well illustrated by published economic data

The UK has extensive and diverse resources of minerals

The use of UK resources may be the most sustainable option for mineral supply

The House of Commons Business, Innovation and Skills Committee has asked the Government to provide detail of its support for the enlargement of the UK's domestic extraction sector

There has been a significant decline of the UK mineral industry skills base and educational facilities that is having a negative impact upon the UK as a center for both domestic and world wide mining

There needs to be better public engagement on the benefits of extracting minerals from UK resources and agreement on how this can be achieved – even (particularly) within designated landscape areas

The demand for minerals is likely to increase as a result of population growth and economic recovery

Supply from UK mineral resources is declining

Imports of minerals and mineral products are increasing

The balance of trade in minerals is negative and increasingly so but could be countered

The risk of reduced security of supply from other countries is increasing

The use of UK resources as well as efficiency of use, recycling and the use of alternative materials is essential for raw material security of supply

The UK has no industrial or economic policy supporting the use of indigenous mineral resources (other than offshore oil and gas)

There are no links made between Minerals and other UK key industrial strategies. Responsibility for minerals policy falls between several Government departments. Better coordination and clear support for the use of UK resources is required

The potential for inward investment, processing, manufacturing, employment, research and development associated with mineral supply from UK resources is not recognized or supported by economic and industrial policy

The potential for minerals from UK resources to help rebalance the economy towards production and manufacturing and to improve the balance of payments is not sufficiently recognized or supported in economic strategy and policy

The UK planning and regulatory regimes are not sufficiently supportive of the economic and social pillars of sustainable development when considering the need to work UK resources for minerals

The EU and countries around the world are developing strategies to promote resource security including trade agreements, the use of indigenous resources, recycling and efficiency of use – the UK needs to fully engage with these issues

Strategy aims and actions will need to be tailored to suit the particular circumstances within the devolved administrative areas

UK Minerals Strategy

STRATEGY	RESPONSIBILITY
Make mineral supply from UK resources the first supply option	Industry working with Government and Mineral Planning Authorities
Strengthen national economic policy to clearly support minerals supply from UK resources	Government - BIS, DECC, HMT, DCLG, DEFRA
Reduce the balance of payments deficit from imported minerals	Industry working with Government
Use mineral extraction to help rebalance the economy towards production and manufacturing	Industry and Government
Coordinate UK mineral sector and industrial strategies	Industry working with Government and other industry sectors
Promote public engagement with the minerals and mining industry with a variety of stakeholders including MPs, MEPs, NGOs, local communities	UK Minerals Forum
Promote the highest standards of working, restoration and health and safety	Industry with UK Minerals Forum
Increase security of supply from the use of UK resources	Industry and Government
Promote and support opportunities for downstream added value and manufacturing	Industry working with Government – BIS
Promote and develop the UK supply chain	Industry working with Government, coordination with other Government industrial strategy
Support for education, research and development	Industry working with Government – DECC, Innovate UK, Catapults and NERC
Promote and support recycling and substitution as part of supply strategy	Industry working with Government – BIS, DEFRA
Engage and integrate with the EU Raw Materials Initiative	Government working with Industry
Support free trade as part of security of supply	Government – BIS
Support the Mining Transparency Initiative	Government working with Industry
Support exploration of UK mineral resources – financial and fiscal	Government working with Industry and NERC
Streamline and coordinate the planning and environmental regulatory systems	Government – DCLG, DEFRA

UK Minerals Strategy – Actions to improve mineral supply from UK resources

Actions	Lead Organisations
Secure the compilation and publication of UK mineral statistics through BGS	Government, BGS and UKMF (UK Minerals Forum)
Use economic data to better illustrate the importance of minerals to the UK economy	ONS, BGS, Industry and UKMF
Strengthen specialist in-house support for the minerals sector within BIS and give BIS ministerial responsibility for UK minerals policy	BIS
BIS and industry to work more closely to develop sectoral support to increase mineral supply from UK resources	BIS, DECC, DEFRA, DCLG, HMT and Industry
Government to give clearly stated support for the use of UK natural resources as part of economic strategy	Government and industry working together
Develop a better public understanding of the need for minerals from UK resources and a public consensus for extraction criteria	UKMF with Government
Co-ordinate all industrial strategies to support UK extraction, processing, manufacturing and employment	BIS, DECC, HMT, Industry
Government to fully recognize and support the extraction of primary minerals as part of the Raw Materials Security Initiative	BIS, DCLG, DEFRA
Support for research and development on the industrial uses of UK mineral resources, efficiency of use, recycling	BIS, NERC, MIRO, Innovate UK, Catapults
Support for resource assessment, exploration and evaluation including the development of new exploration technologies – funding, access to finance, tax reliefs	BIS, HMT, DECC and NERC
Ensure carbon and regulatory costs imposed on energy intensive mineral products do not go beyond those faced by overseas competitors	BIS, DECC, HMT
Compensate energy intensive mineral products against the indirect costs of the EU Emissions Trading System in order to prevent carbon and investment	BIS, DECC, HMT

leakage	
Support inward investment in minerals as part of a joined up industrial strategy ensuring indigenous raw materials can be used to support other UK industrial sector growth.	Industry, BIS, DECC, HMT, DCLG
Reinstate the primacy of the planning permission as the principal development consent	DCLG and DEFRA
Streamline the environmental permitting process through planning and use permitting to support the implementation of the planning permission	DCLG and DEFRA
Facilitate the delivery of minerals local plans through concentration upon minerals safeguarding areas and development criteria	DCLG and Mineral Planning Authorities