



RTPI

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Colne Neighbourhood Development Plan

Potential Housing Sites

Coal Risk Assessment

2022 Update

(January 2022)

Kirkwells

The Planning People

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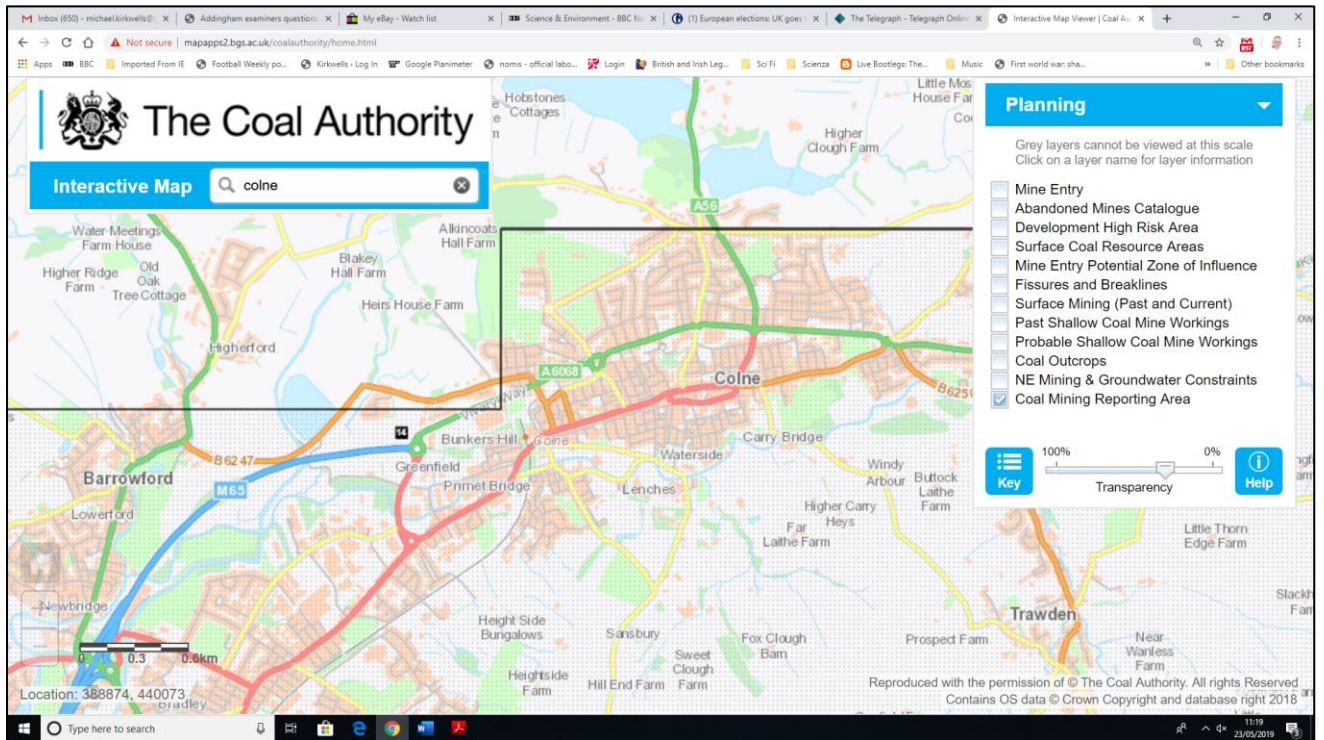
1.0 Introduction

1. This report has been prepared to support the site allocations in the Colne Neighbourhood Development Plan (CNDP). It follows comments at the informal consultation stage and Regulation 14 stage made to the Town Council by the Coal Authority (Appendix 1). These comments made the following observations:
 - The neighbourhood area lies within the current defined coalfield
 - From the Coal Authority High Risk Area Plans, there are recorded risks from past coal mining activity in the form of approximately 40 mine entries and recorded and likely unrecorded coal workings at shallow depth.
 - The CNDP seeks to allocate sites, but it is not clear from the plan that issues of coal mining legacy and surface coal resource have formed part of the site assessments.
 - The impact of possible mineral sterilisation of surface coal resources should be considered.
2. This report is based on data available from the Coal Authority Interactive Mapping web site:
<http://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/coalauthority/home.html>
3. More detailed information has been requested from Pendle Borough Council, but this is not available.

2.0 Coal Mining Reporting Area

4. All potential allocated sites lie within a Coal Authority Coal Mining Reporting Area (Figure 1). The Coal Mining Reporting Area is used to determine whether a coal mining report is required for property transactions and the conveyance process.

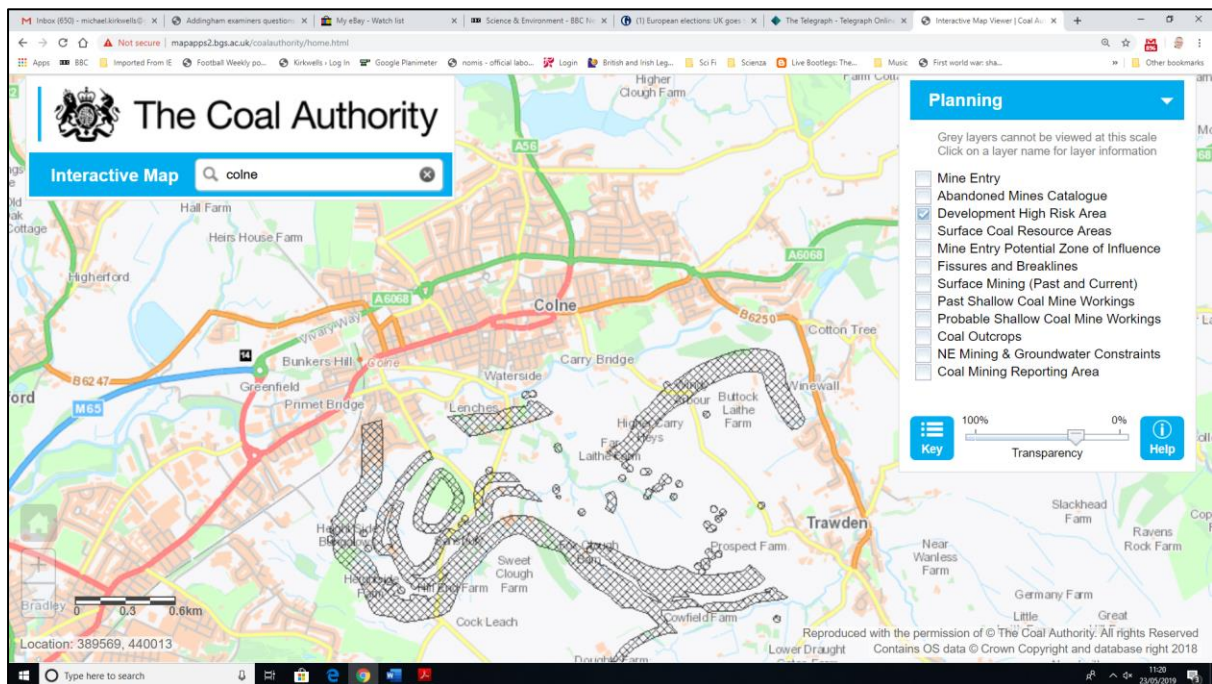
Figure 1. Coal Mining Reporting Area, Colne (Source: The Coal Authority)



3.0 Development High Risk Areas

5. In Colne, Development High Risk Areas are to the south of the town (Figure 2).
6. Based on this information only one site may be affected by being within or adjacent to a Development High Risk Area CNDP6/8 – Green Works, Knotts Lane (the 3 other sites previously affected in this way are no longer allocations in the CNDP). Such areas are defined to enable developers and planners to understand and consider the potential for instability or degree of risk from the legacy of coal mining operations.
7. The Development High Risk Area is the part of the coal mining reporting area which contains one or more recorded coal mining related features which have the potential for instability or a degree of risk to the surface from the legacy of coal mining operations. The combination of features included in this composite area includes mine entries; shallow coal workings (recorded and probable); recorded coal mining related hazards; recorded mine gas sites; fissures and breaklines and previous surface mining sites.
8. New development in this defined area needs to demonstrate that the development will be safe and stable taking full account of former coal mining activities. This area was formally known as the Development Referral Area.

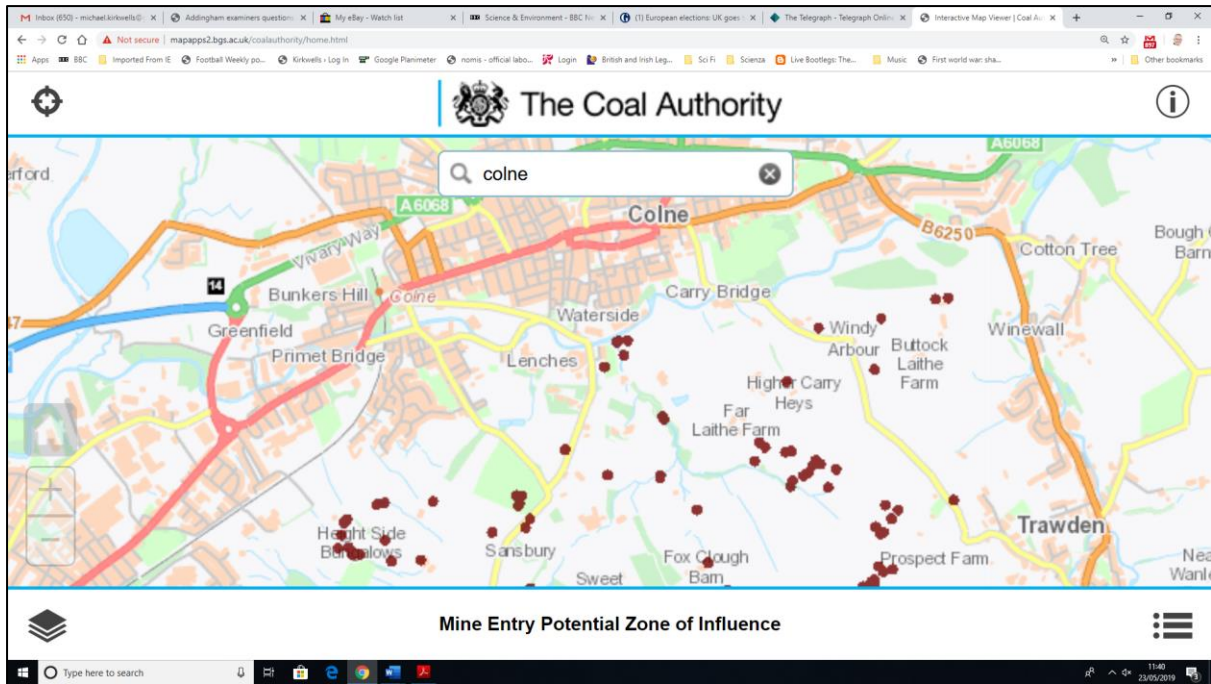
Figure 2. Development High Risk Areas (Source: The Coal Authority)



4.0 Mine Entry Potential Zone of Influence

9. Figure 3 shows the Mine Entry Potential Zones of Influence.

Figure 3. Mine Entry Potential Zones of Influence (Source: The Coal Authority)

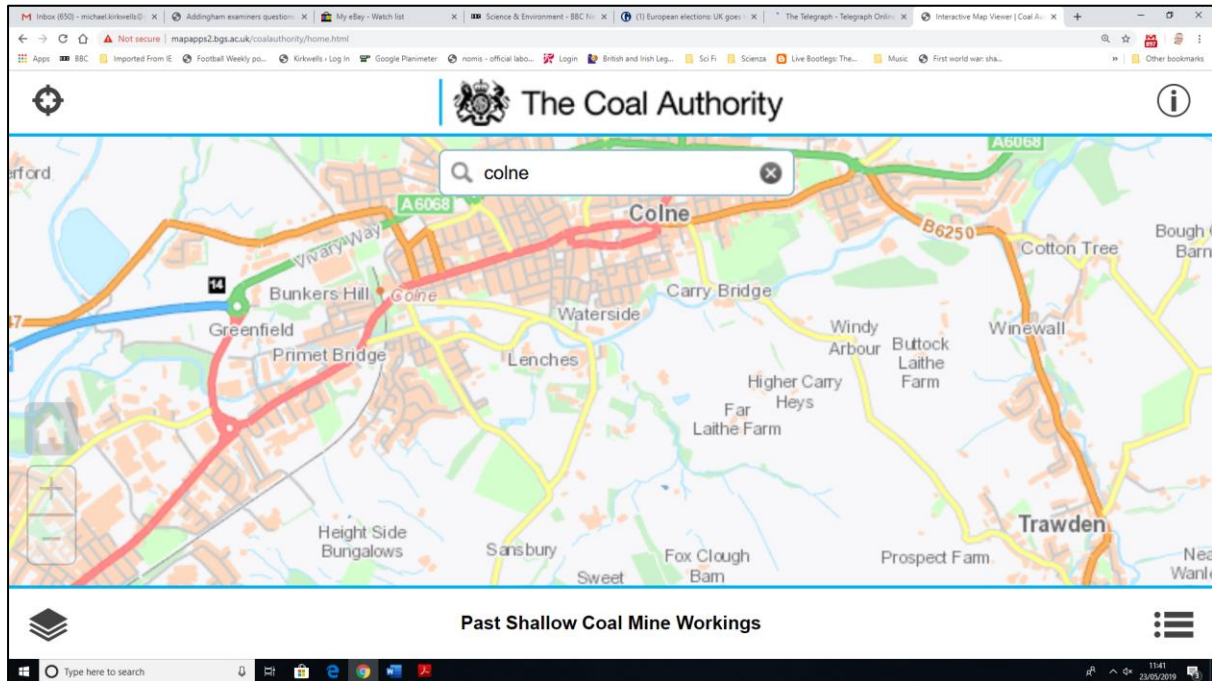


10. None of sites affected.

5.0 Shallow Coal Workings

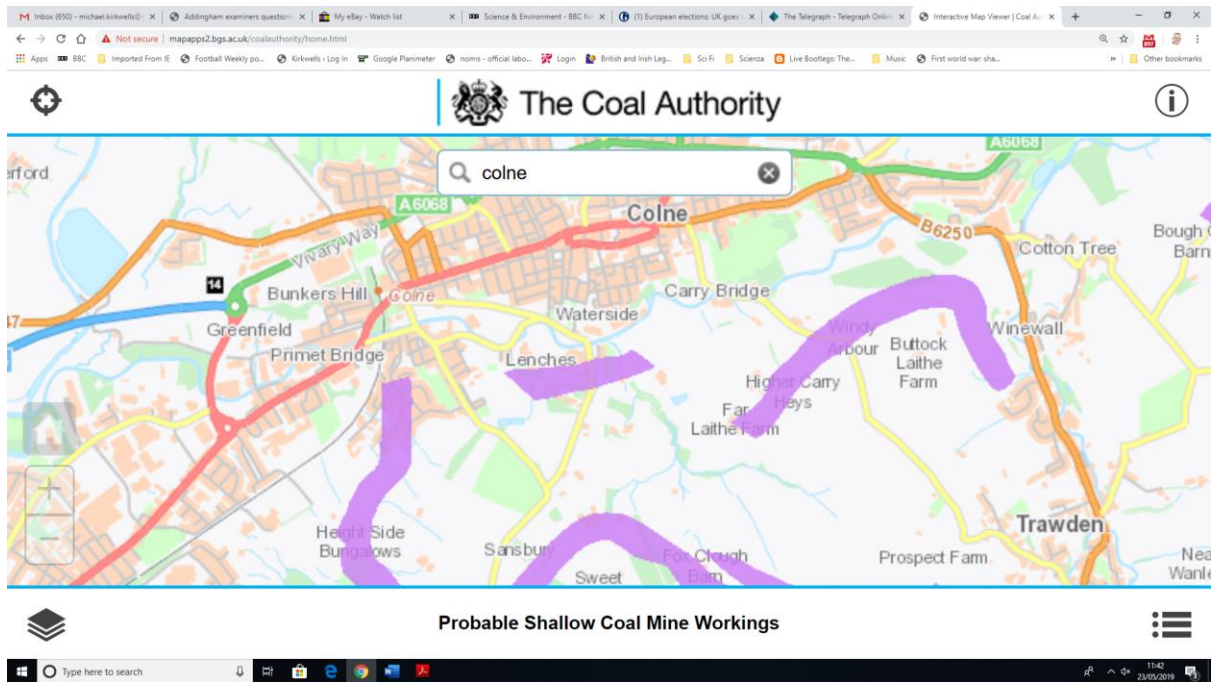
11. There is no evidence of past shallow coal workings in the neighbourhood area (Figure 4), but there is evidence of probable shallow coal workings.

Figure 4. Past Shallow Coal Workings (Source: The Coal Authority)



12. Figure 5 shows the area of probable shallow coal workings. None of the proposed Colne Neighbourhood Development Plan site allocations will lead to the sterilisation of surface coal resources.

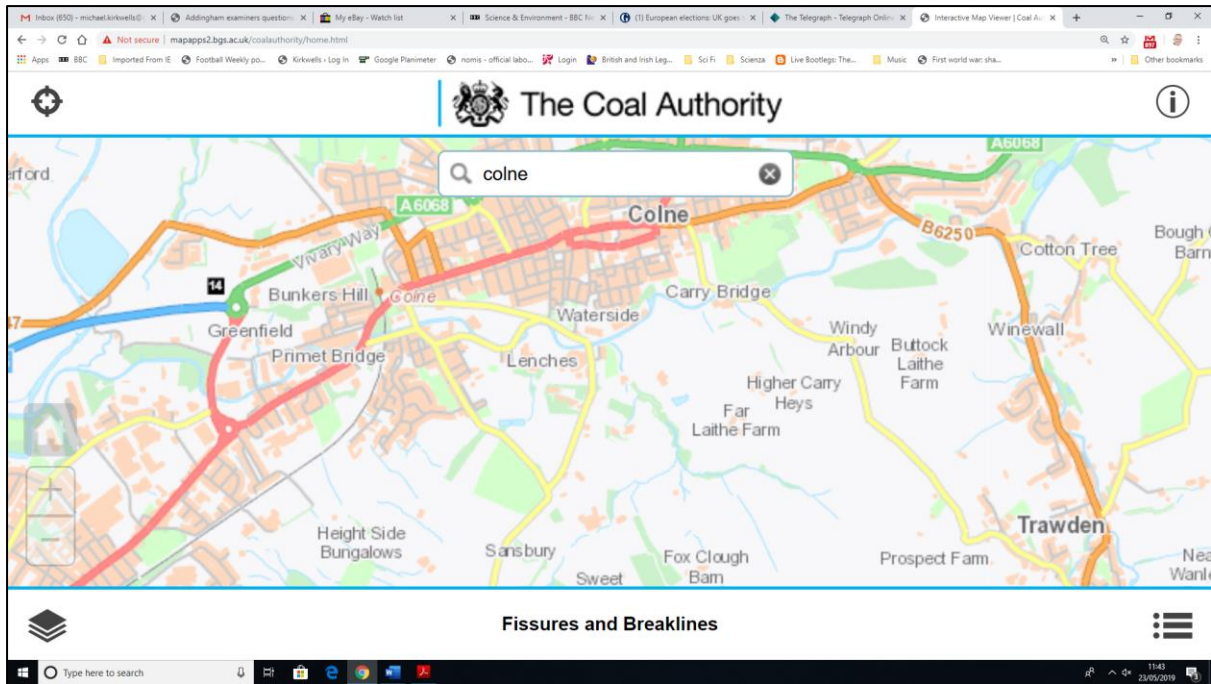
Figure 5. Probable Shallow Coal Mine Workings (Source: The Coal Authority)



6.0 Fissures and Breaklines

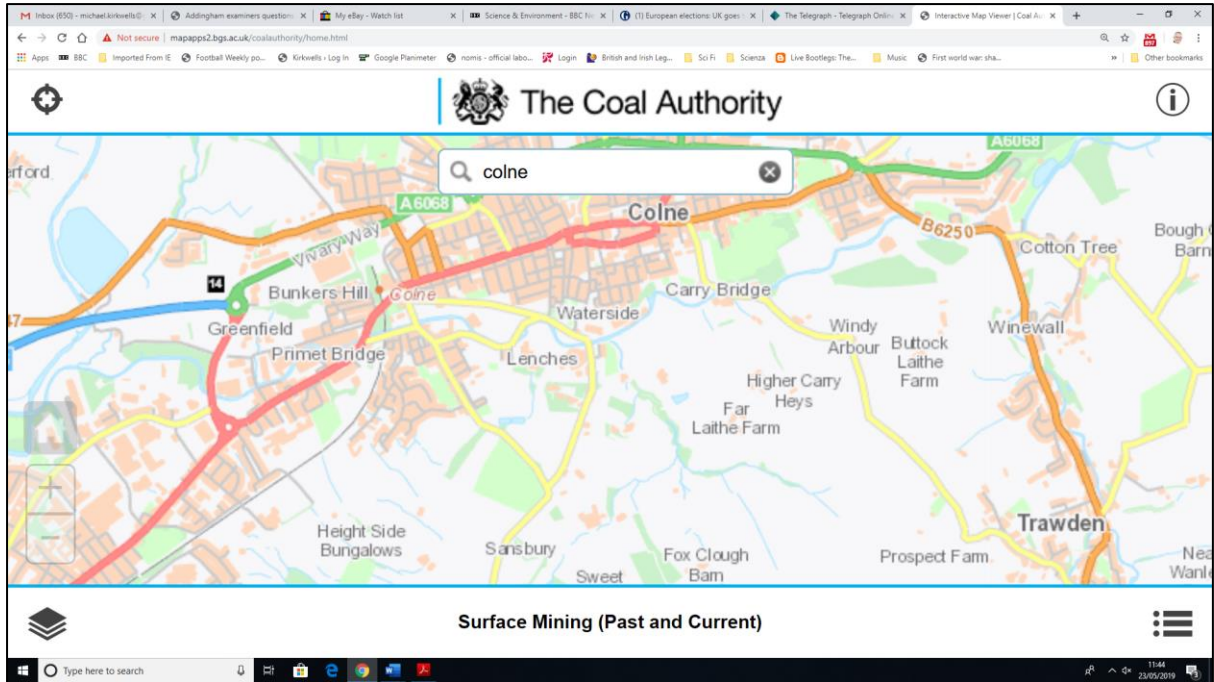
13. There is no evidence of fissures and break lines in the neighbourhood area (Figure 6.)

Figure 6. Fissures and Breaklines (Source: The Coal Authority)



7.0 Surface Mining

14. There is no evidence of surface coal mining (past and current) in the neighbourhood area.



8.0 Conclusions

15. All proposed housing allocation sites, to be included in the Regulation 16 Draft Colne Neighbourhood Development Plan (CNDP), with the exception of CNDP6/8 Green Works, Knotts Lane lie outside a High Risk Coal Mining Area.
17. Site CNDP6/8 can continue to be allocated in the CNDP, but further assessment of risk should be undertaken to assess the risk for this site at the planning application stage.
18. If risks are identified for this, and other sites, as part of the planning application/development management process this should be reflected in the developable area of each site and suitably conditioned.
19. None of the site allocations will lead to the sterilisation of surface coal resources; and from the information available none are impacted on by mapped coal mining legacy issues.

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