

# Northern Ireland's Quarry Industry

## Shared Priorities for Sustainable Development



# Quarry Production Association NI

The trade association for companies involved in supplying crushed rock and sand and gravel, asphalt, ready-mixed concrete, agricultural lime, industrial lime, mortar, recycled materials and construction and quarrying plant.

Represent:

- 81 Quarry Products Companies**
- 29 Affiliate Members**
- 3 Associate Members**

**QPANI is affiliated to Minerals Products Association and European Aggregates Association (EUPG).**

Staff:

**Gordon Best**

**Laverne Bell**

**Fiona Taggart**

**Regional Director**

**Environment & Planning**

**Office Manager**

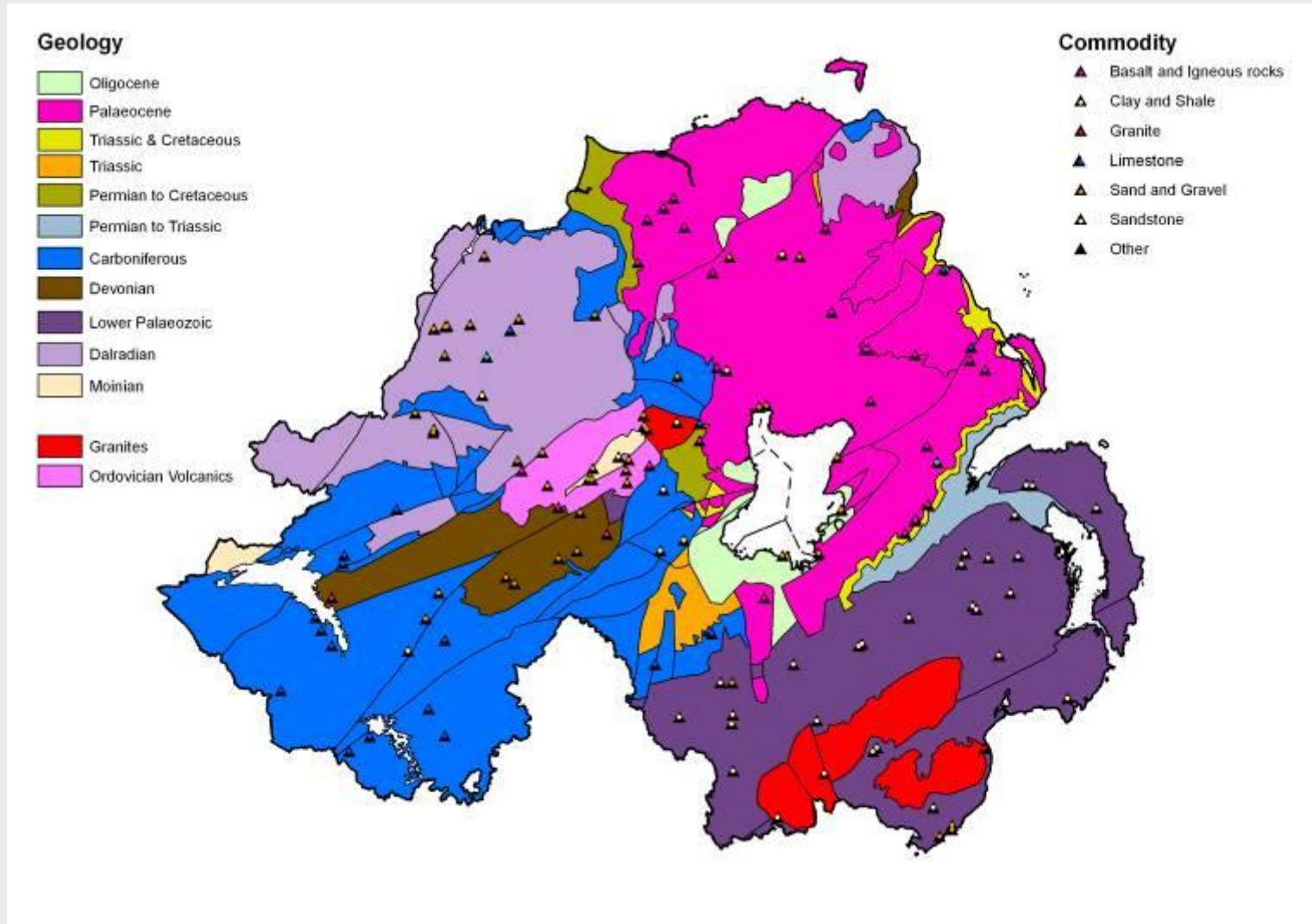
# Our Statement of Purpose

- **“The QPANI exists to add value and improve the long term commercial sustainability of member businesses and the Industry as a whole”.**

# Our Role

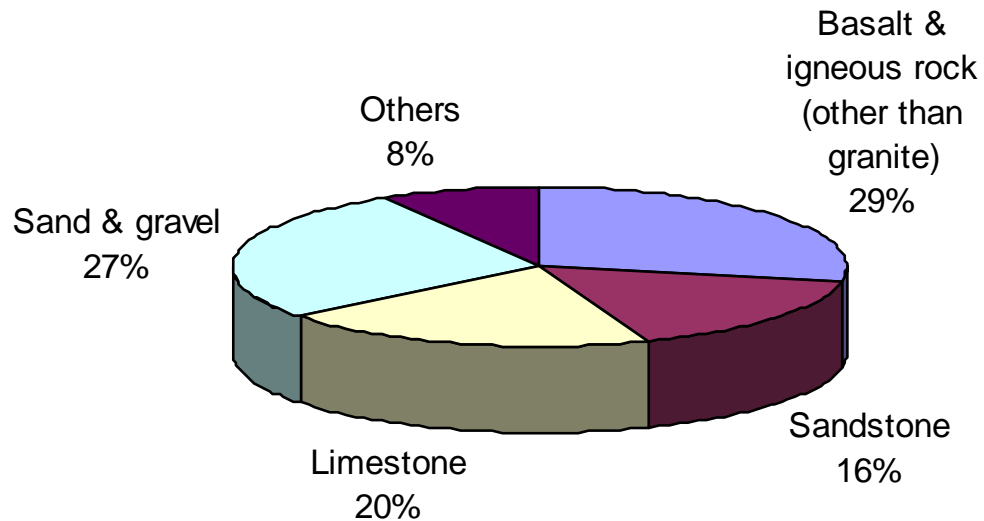
- **Facilitator/to/from Government influence.**
- **Education internal/external**
- **Protect & expand market**
- **Sustainable employment/careers path**
- **Corporate Social Responsibility**

# Aggregate Quarries in NI

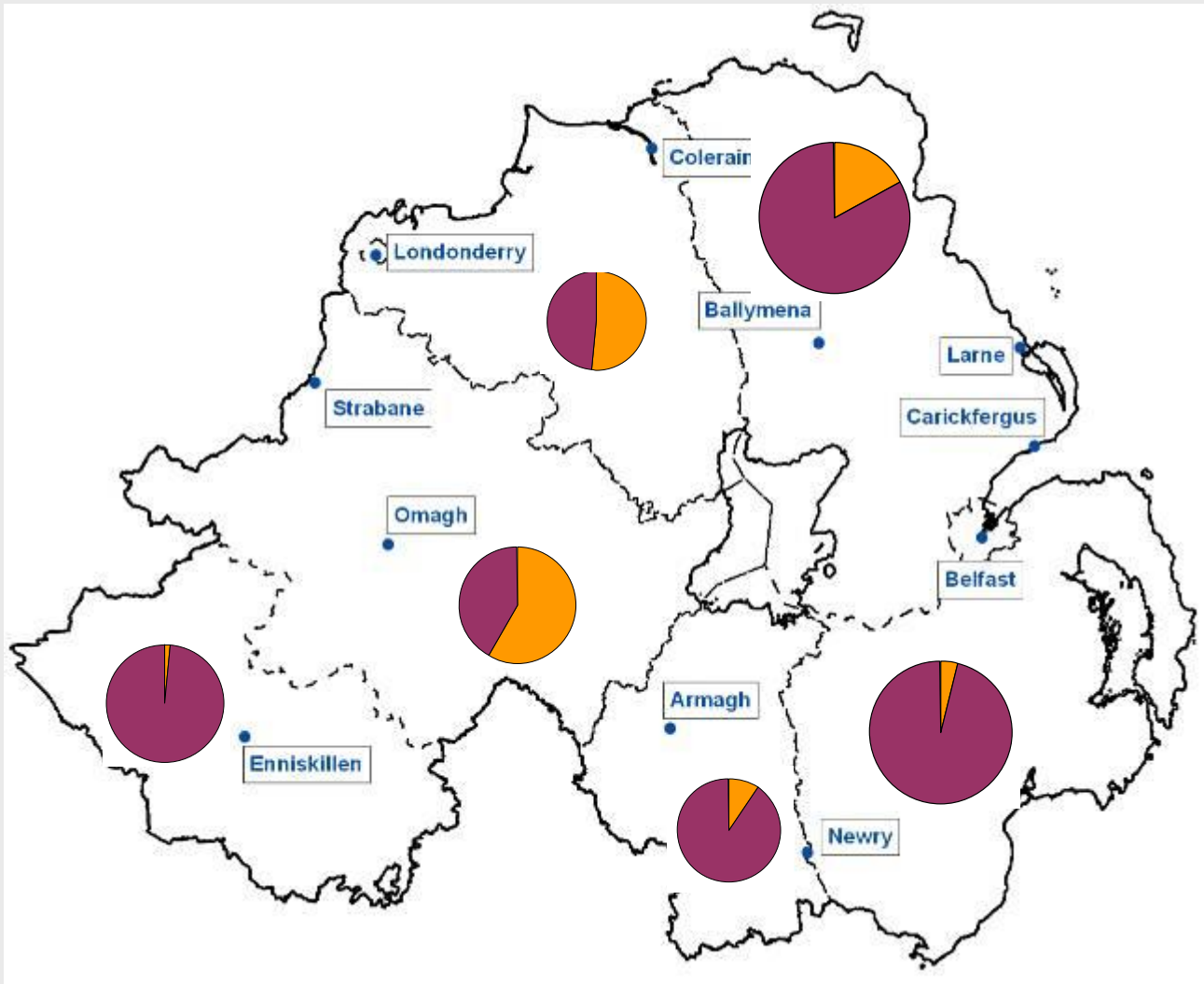


# NI Primary Aggregate Production

NI primary aggregate production by rock type 2007



# Aggregate production by area/ type



# Minerals and Society

- Minerals are essential for development of the economy and for maintaining our lifestyle  
but...
- Extraction, processing and transport creates significant environmental and social impact;
- mineral operations can be very contentious;
- issues related to minerals often divisive and politically sensitive;
- debate is often ill-informed.



# Facts & Figures

- **Average Annual Aggregate Production 27 million tons ( 2007 ). 2009 DETINI Minerals Statement shows a drop to just over 20 million tonnes**
- **Annual Turnover of Quarry Products sector- approx. £600m**
- **(2.5% of NI GDP)**
- **Employment – in 2007 over 5,000\* jobs directly (end of 2009 25% drop to 3,750)**
- **We invest some £874 per employee in Health and Safety and £902 per employee in environmental issues.**
- **The NI Construction Industry employs over 85,000\* people and is the engine room of the NI economy is totally dependant on the supply of quarry products.**
- **Without the quarry products industry the Investment Strategy for NI of £18 billion will not happen.**

(\*2007 figures)

# Minerals & Society

The Approx Aggregate required in a person's lifetime...

**840 tonnes  
of hard rock**

**329 tonnes  
of concrete**

**247 tonnes of  
Sand and gravel**

**95 tonnes  
of asphalt**

**42 tonnes  
of agricultural lime**



# Local Stone for Local Use

- Typical pattern of supply in N Ireland is that stone is used within 10km - 15km of the quarry
- Added-value products (such as concrete blocks) may travel further



# Aggregate 'exports'



- Some Lower Palaeozoic sandstones are premium quality road-surfacing materials (skid-resistant high PSV)
- N Ireland has become an important exporter of high PSV stone to England
- Possible policy changes and concerns about SoS in England may have future impact

# ISSUES FACING THE INDUSTRY

- Health and safety
- Sustainability
- Planning
- Public sector investment in our infrastructure
- Recruitment
- Public Perception of the industry

# Just too put it in Industry's perspective – An ironic example from England...

## ?? MINERAL SAFEGUARDING ??

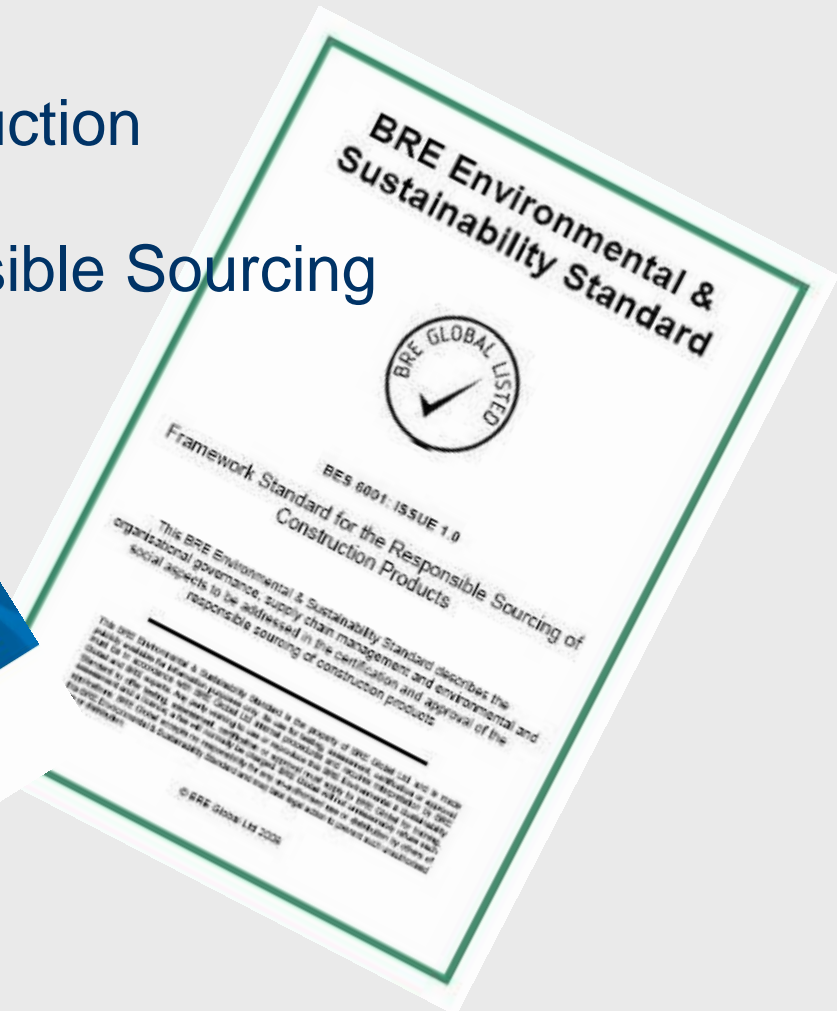
- World Heritage Sites
- AONBs
- Trees
- Badgers
- Newts
- Old things in the ground
- Pretty rocks
- National Parks
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Ducks
- Beetles
- Old Buildings
- Pretty buildings even if they aren't old
- Rocks that are really useful even if they aren't pretty
- Rocks that are essential to the nation's prosperity and quality of life and help to create and develop sustainable communities (MPS1)
- Rocks that have become vital to our survival.....

# Sustainable Consumption and Production

- **Sustainable Products**

- ✓ Role in Sustainable Construction

- ✓ Actively promoting Responsible Sourcing



# Creating Sustainable Communities

- **Health & Safety**
  - *Highest priority*
- **Employment & Economic Activity**
- **Competent Workforce**
  - *Maintaining and developing*
  - *National Diploma, GCSE*
- **Stakeholder Accountability**
  - *Operating as good corporate citizens*
- **Working with the Community**







Thank you for your time!

For further information:

[www.qpani.org](http://www.qpani.org)