



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Free mineral exploration information from MineralsUK.com**

**The British Geological Survey (BGS) is making its mineral exploration archive available to download for free from MineralsUK.com. This will coincide with the relaunch of the website in early February 2010.**

Relative to its size, Britain is well endowed with mineral resources. Considerable mineral exploration was carried out by the BGS over a 25-year period as part of its Mineral Reconnaissance Programme (MRP). This provided geological, geochemical, geophysical, mineralogical and metallogenic information on prospective areas across Britain. By the end of the MRP in 1997, 146 reports had been issued covering localities across the UK; over the next year, all of these will be made available to download from the BGS website, [MineralsUK.com](http://MineralsUK.com).



Exploration of Curraghinalt gold deposit, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland (BGS©NERC)

MineralsUK.com is the website of the BGS Centre for Sustainable Mineral Development. Part of the BGS Minerals and Waste science programme, the Centre is a global leader in the compilation, provision and analysis of mineral statistics and the major UK national provider of spatial and statistical minerals information. Its research focuses on areas directly relevant to the user community, such as metallogenesis, land-use impacts of mineral extraction and geomaterials.

To mark over 10 years online, MineralsUK.com has been freshly redesigned and brought right up to date. It will continue to provide the latest industry news, timely statistical, land use planning and resource information. The release of the MRP reports on MineralsUK.com is in keeping with the BGS [OpenGeoscience](http://OpenGeoscience)



ethos. The [first 10 MRP reports](#) are now available to download. This exploration information is the latest addition to a large portfolio of free downloads available from MineralsUK.com, including research reports and a global mineral statistical archive stretching back to 1913.

Andrew Bloodworth, Head of Science for Minerals and Waste at the BGS, said:

“The release of these exploration reports represents the latest addition to our large collection of minerals-related information which is freely available online to our users. Supported by the Department of Communities and Local Government, the new-look MineralsUK.com website represents a major source of impartial and authoritative information on minerals issues in the UK and elsewhere”

\*Ends\*

**For further details or to arrange media interviews please contact:**

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**Notes for Editors**

Available for interview: Andrew Bloodworth, Head of Science, Minerals and Waste, BGS

MineralsUK photographs from: <ftp://kwuf.nkw.ac.uk/pubload/cjmi/MineralsUK/>

(Free for media & non-commercial use on the proviso that the following is used alongside the image: Courtesy of the BGS©NERC).

The Mineral Reconnaissance Reports are available to download from here: [www.bgs.ac.uk/mineralsuk/exploration/potential/mrphome.html](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/mineralsuk/exploration/potential/mrphome.html)

**The British Geological Survey**

The British Geological Survey (BGS), a component body of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), is the nation's principal supplier of objective, impartial and up-to-date geological expertise and information for decision making for governmental, commercial and individual users. The BGS maintains and develops the nation's understanding of its geology to improve policy making, enhance national wealth and reduce risk. It also collaborates with the national and international scientific community in carrying out research in strategic areas, including energy and natural resources, our vulnerability to environmental change and hazards, and our general knowledge of the Earth system. More about the BGS can be found at [www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk).

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