

Appendix 5 Baseline Information

Core Strategy Final Sustainability Appraisal Report

Appendix 5 Baseline Information

In order to make analysis of the baseline information more manageable the suggested SEA topics were divided into the sub – headings below. Following each sub-heading, each of the JMWDF objectives is shown together with its full title. Below this is a short summary of the current situation with regard to Berkshire. This summary puts into words the information contained in the table underneath.

With regards to the columns in the table, information for each objective is divided into 5 sections;

Indicator	This shows how the JSPU believes the objective referred to above can be monitored. Each indicator should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable Realistic and Time-Bound
Quantified Data	This is split into a further 3 sub-sections for greater clarity. Each shows the availability of data at the local (Berkshire), regional (South East England) and National (England or England and Wales depending on data sources) level. If the information required is not available or not considered to be relevant, an abbreviation N/A is shown
Target	This is a goal to be reached, although recognition is given that some targets are aspirational in nature
Trend and Comments	An indication as to whether or not the indicator is improving or declining in relation to the target together with a short explanation/comment on the quantified data
Data Source	A list showing where the quantified data originated

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Mineral Resources

Objective 1 To protect important mineral reserves and minimise sterilisation by non-mineral development.

The six Unitary Authorities spatially record all planning applications submitted to them. This information when compared with the known mineral deposits (see Maps 2a and 2b) will enable this objective to be monitored. Historical data is not currently available since monitoring systems have lacked the degree of sophistication to accurately record applications and mineral deposits. As part of the LDF process a review of monitoring requirements is currently being undertaken. Further details are included in the JMW AMR 2005.

In 2004, four applications were approved for extensions to existing pits. In all cases the mineral would have been sterilised if it had not been extracted at the same time as the existing quarry.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend & Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Planning permissions granted on known mineral deposits	Data not currently available in correct format	N/A	N/A	90% of identified mineral resources to be protected from sterilisation	Insufficient data available at the moment to establish trend, although the above permissions could suggest a positive position.	Local Development Control records G.I.S.

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Objective 2 To contribute to meeting Berkshire's sub-regional apportionment

RPG 9¹ states that the Berkshire Unitary Authorities' apportionment should be 1.57 mtpa. Berkshire produced 1 mt of primary land won aggregates in 2003 but no information exists to provide an estimate of secondary/ recycled aggregates.

It is also reasonable to assume that any shortfall between actual production and anticipated demand is met by a variety of factors including an increased use of recycled construction and demolition waste and a reduced utilisation of aggregates in construction generally with the greater use of steel and glass in new buildings.²

In the South East the recommended apportionment target for the use of secondary and recycled aggregates has been increased to at least 7.7 Mt in 2016³. The apportionment figure for Berkshire is recommended to be 0.69 Mt in 2016.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend & Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Annual production of primary won aggregates & secondary/recycled aggregates	In 2003 Berkshire produced 1 mt of primary land won aggregates. No figures available for secondary/ recycled aggregates.	In 2003 South East produced 10.7 mt of primary land won aggregates and 6.6 mt secondary/ recycled aggregates	65 mtpa of aggregates used each year in the UK are from recycled or secondary aggregates.	1.57 mt per annum	Insufficient data to establish trend. Failure to meet this target could indicate that other targets are being met e.g. recycling of C & D resulting in less demand for virgin aggregates. Primary aggregate data good. Secondary & recycled no data source identified. Survey is done on calendar year and not on financial	Annual Quarry Products Association Survey www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/publications/ Mineral Strategy and Regional Monitoring Report. www.aggregain.org.uk/sustainable.html

¹ Proposed Changes to Regional Planning Guidance for the South East (RPG9) – Waste and Minerals August 2005, Government Office for the South East

² Joint Minerals and Waste Annual Monitoring Report. JSPU. JLDF 003

³ Contained in Proposed Changes to Regional Policy Guidance for the South East (RPG9) – Waste and Minerals. GOSE. 19th August 2005

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Waste

Objective 3 To Increase the use of secondary or recycled materials

Significant increases in the amount of household waste recycled/composted have been achieved in Berkshire between 1997 – 2004 with approximately 17% being recycled/composted in 2003 - 2004. However, significant increases will be needed in the future to meet RPG9 targets.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Waste recycling Commercial/ industrial Waste composted Waste used to recover heat/power/other energy	17% of waste in Berkshire was recycled or composted in 2003 – 2004.	Some data exists but surveys are not conducted on a regular basis e.g. National Waste Products Survey	National Data Strategy not due to start until May 2006 & no guarantee all waste streams will be covered	RPG 9 Waste policy – 52% of waste should be recovered/ recycled by 2010. RMS– proportion of total aggregates from recycled and secondary aggregates to be 34% by 2016. Emerging SEP Plan 0.7mtpa of capacity for recycled and secondary aggregates should be provided by 2016 in Berkshire.	Limited information shows slight improvement. Data poor quality Information has not been collected in a consistent and comprehensive manner	Waste Data Flow (MSW only) Environment Agency SEERA LATS DEFRA

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Objective 4 To minimise waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste.

No reliable figure is currently available for total waste arisings in Berkshire in individual recent years. The EA Strategic Waste Management Assessment of the total estimated waste arisings in Berkshire in 2002 – 2003 was 2.6mt. However, it must be stressed that these figures lack reliability. A significant increase in arisings is forecast.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Waste Arisings: Inert C & D Special Municipal Industrial/ Commercial	Total Estimated waste arisings for 2002 – 2003 was 2.6 mt	N/A	N/A	RPG 9 Waste policy – 52% of waste should be recovered/ recycled by 2010.	MSW – good C & D, C & I & Special - poor. Approx 420,000 more tonnes of municipal and commercial/industrial waste is forecast to arise in 2016 than in the base year of 2001/2 (2002/3 for municipal waste). Information has not been collected in a consistent and comprehensive manner	The EA Strategic Waste Management Assessment Environment Agency SEERA LATS DEFRA

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Objective 5 To ensure an adequate network of waste management facilities to meet Berkshire's waste requirements

Currently, approximately 100 medium to large waste management facilities have been identified as operating within the six Unitary Authorities. These facilities cover a wide variety of waste management operations and cater for a whole range of waste arisings relating to MSW, C & D and C & I waste streams.

Recent research undertaken by SEERA suggests that significant additional facilities will need to be provided to meet waste management targets for the South East of England and Berkshire will not be an exception to this need.

The emerging RPG 9 revision suggests that the total waste arisings in the Berkshire Unitary Authority Area will rise from 0.461 mt per annum to 0.612 mt per annum by 2020.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of new waste management facilities granted in Berkshire	New planning applications in addition to the facilities listed in JMWAMR 2005.	N/A	N/A	Capacity to be greater than demand thus ensuring self-sufficiency for Berkshire's waste arisings.	Neutral to declining as existing capacity is exhausted and no new facilities emerge. Data good, however, the current EA licensing system encourages waste operators to overstate their capacity rather than actual capacity in order to avoid a situation whereby they might exceed their license and thus be liable to significant fines.	Environment Agency UAs

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Objective 6 To increase energy efficiency and the production of renewable energy

Recently permission has been granted for a major energy from waste facility in the east of Berkshire. This scheme is currently the only significant renewable energy facility associated with minerals and waste activities. A number of land fill sites both existing and closed have methane gas collection units which also contribute to the renewable energy target. In addition 2 other major renewable energy schemes have either been granted permission or implemented and whilst they contribute to the target shown in Objective 6 they are not related to minerals or waste activities.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of new energy producing waste schemes granted planning permission.	New planning applications in addition to the facilities listed in JMWAMR 2005.	N/A	N/A	RPG9 chap 10 target and Emerging South East Plan sub-regional target for Thames Valley and Surrey of 140 mw of installed capacity of renewable energy by 2010 and 209mw by 2026.	The sub-regional target relates to total energy production and does not distinguish between the different types of energy e.g. hydro-electric, wind or energy from waste. Data good but only in relation to theoretical capacity and number of sites.	Local Development Control Records

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Effect on Communities

Objective 7 Minimise public nuisance from mineral workings and waste sites

Mineral and waste sites can be a source of complaint for both nearby residents and more removed localities that happen to be on the transport route to and from individual sites. Members of the public often complain to Local authorities about issues such as noise, dust, odour and vermin. This information is collated by either environmental health or planning enforcement officers. However, this information has not necessarily been publicised.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Statistics on noise, odour, dust vermin and aggregate and waste lorry movement to and from site complaints which require a formal intervention on behalf of the local authority.	No consolidated data exists.	N/A	N/A	To be determined following collection of baseline data and in conjunction with Local Authority.	Trend not known. Data good.	Local UA records of complaints received by & enforcement action taken

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Objective 8 Give thorough consideration to proximity of mineral workings and waste management facilities or ancillary development to settlements and individual properties

The JMW AMRs for Berkshire show that 'in general the RMLP is being effective in focusing the submission of new applications on its Preferred Areas with only two out of the nine major applications for sharp sand and gravel extraction submitted since the RMLP was adopted in 1995 (other than windfall applications) being at non-Preferred sites.' Neither of the non-Preferred sites were within 250m of a settlement.

The JMW AMR 2005 gives details of all the waste-related development that was decided by the Berkshire Authorities during 2004.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of permissions granted for mineral or waste developments within a pre-defined distance of settlement/ residential properties as of 2005.	Planning application data.	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Favourable trend. Data good. However, AMR 2005 has highlighted issues with data deficiencies and has recommended solutions.	Planning Applications G.I.S.

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Objective 9 To encourage the use of previously developed land and prevent loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.

Only secondary aggregates are not taken from greenfield sites. Primary aggregates are frequently located in the flood plain which is often the best agricultural land.

During 2004 the only major mineral quarrying planning application was an application for extraction of 0.8 mt of sand and gravel on a green belt site on part of a Preferred Area.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
% of new development on previously developed land (PDL)	Planning Applications	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Growth in secondary and recycled aggregates means less demand for primary aggregates. Data good.	Planning Applications G.I.S.

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Objective 10 Consider the early planning of mineral working and waste site restoration to ensure land is accessible to visitors and restored and maintained to an appropriate standard (including long term visual effect) for use as e.g. recreational facilities, nature reserves, agricultural use, water storage or flood management

Restoration in Berkshire has tended to be for 'wet' uses such as fishing lakes, sailing lakes and other recreational uses in the west of the county and to agriculture in the east of the county due to the danger of bird strikes associated with shallow water.

For the purposes of this report 'long term' has been defined in the case of minerals as 25 years+, and in the case of waste as 10+ years. This is subjective e.g. restoration to a lake may be acceptable to newcomers but a long term resident may consider this to have an adverse visual impact.'

It is not desirable for the general public to have access to working quarries and abandoned quarries, which could contain deep water, on health and safety grounds. However, restoration should where possible allow access or provide safe alternatives. Thus mineral and waste activity can contribute to increasing the amenity value of the countryside over period of time

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of sites not restored within timescale of planning permission	0	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	No trend available. Data good.	Local Development Control Records
Number of new developments which will impact on areas of landscape importance	Planning Permissions	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend to be established as baseline has just been set. Data good	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S
Loss of access to rights of way etc Areas of common land	Planning Permissions	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend to be established as baseline has just been set. Data good	Unitary Authorities. Temporary or permanent rights of way diversions www.countryside.gov.uk www.openaccess.gov.uk
Loss of land classified as Open Space of Public Value (OSPV)	Planning Permissions	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend to be established as baseline has just been set. Data good	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S.

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Transport

Objective 11 To safeguard mineral distribution nodes such as rail facilities

The importance of rail depots in helping to meet the county's need for aggregates is likely to increase in the future. Additionally, the rail depots of Berkshire make a significant contribution to the aggregates needs of other counties, reducing in turn the pressures for mineral extraction in the region. The transfer facility at Colnbrook has the capacity to handle 1.6 mtpa of material and has been operating at around 4,000 t per day in relation to the construction of Terminal 5 at Heathrow. The greatest value of rail aggregates depots is their regional role in supplying areas such as London which have only very limited remaining resources of sand and gravel.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of new developments on distribution nodes	Planning applications	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend not applicable as the number of facilities is so few. Data good.	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S

Objective 12 To promote the best use of available transport mode options for mineral supply and movement of waste, reducing where possible mineral transport by road

The majority of mineral and waste transport is currently by road. However, the rail facility at Colnbrook results in only a short journey by road rather than a road journey originating in Somerset in relation to the supply of material for Terminal 5. This greatly reduces the amount of CO₂

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of new developments on distribution nodes	Planning applications	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend unknown. Data good.	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S

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Biodiversity

Objective 13 To conserve and enhance biodiversity (and if possible geodiversity) and avoid minerals or waste development which would impact on or damage sites of international, national, county or local importance, BAP habitats, SACs, SSSIs, County Wildlife Sites etc

Map 2f shows the location of the environmentally designated sites in Berkshire at 2004. Thames Valley Ecological Records Centre analysis shows that 41% of the areas designated as SSSI are in a favourable condition while a further 53% of the areas are regarded as unfavourable but recovering. Additionally, 5% of the areas were classified as unfavourable no change in condition.

There exists an opportunity for the restoration of mineral facilities to promote bio-diversity and geo-diversity.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Site quality	41% of the area designated as SSSI is in a favourable condition while a further 53% of the area is regarded as unfavourable but recovering. Additionally, 5% of the area was classified as unfavourable no change in condition.	N/A	N/A See http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/indicators/pdf/indicator_s031201.pdf	Following mitigation/restoration 95% of SSSIs affected by mineral and waste activities to be in favourable condition. Additional targets to emerge from LDF process	Trend not known as complete set of data has only been available this year. Data good - SSSIs will be regularly monitored by EN staff every 3 – 6 years.	TVERC (Figures from July 2005 EN data version) G.I.S

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Objective 14 Take effective measures to control adverse impacts on air, dust, groundwater, surface water and soils and minimise adverse effect on climate change

It is important that minerals and waste development do not result in pollution to soils and surface water runoff is treated prior to entering the groundwater system to minimise the risk of contamination.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Assessment against UK National air quality targets CO ₂ emissions Background levels of main air quality pollutants and forecasts Number of air quality management areas Days when air pollution is moderate or high Automatic air monitoring sites Pollutant levels and sources	Under investigation with DEFRA	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend under investigation with DEFRA. It is hard to establish the additional impact of waste and minerals activities Location to M25 M4 etc. Data Quality unknown.	www.airquality.co.uk/archive/data_and_statistics.php www.airquality.co.uk/archive/laqm/tools.php?tool=background www.airquality.co.uk/archive/laqm/laqm.php www.airquality.co.uk/archive/index.php www.airquality.co.uk/archive/autoinfo.php www.naei.org.uk/data_warehouse.php www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/444255/446867/255244/

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Objective 14 (Cont) Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Chemical river quality	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
Biological river quality	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
River water phosphate levels	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
River water nitrate levels	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
Groundwater levels	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
Groundwater Quality	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
Surface Water Quality	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
Surface Water Flow Rates	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
Pollution incidents investigated by EA	Under investigation with EA				Under investigation with EA	
Fly tipping incidents investigated by council	Not in consolidated form				Not available	
Number of new mineral and waste sites that do not meet BPEO	Planning Permissions	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend not known Data good	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S

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Objective 15 Minimise risk of flooding

Historically there has been significant flooding in Central and Eastern Berkshire.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of mineral and waste sites granted planning permission in flood plains Number of restoration schemes that involve flood protection	Under investigation with EA Planning Permissions	N/A	N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Trend under investigation with EA Data good	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S

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Objective 16 Minimise impact on Places and buildings of archaeological, cultural and historic value

Awaiting data from English Heritage to confirm the number of listed buildings and monuments, archaeological sites of interest, historic battlefields, conservation areas and historic parks and gardens in Berkshire.

Indicator	Quantified Data			Target	Trend and Comments	Data Source
	Local Data	Regional Data	National Data			
Number of new planning permissions which would impact on important historic buildings, monuments and areas	Planning Permissions		N/A	To emerge from LDF process	Data Good.	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S
Buildings at Risk	8 Buildings at risk in Berkshire in 2005. Not currently known if any are due to proximity to mineral deposits.	208 Buildings at risk in the South East in 2005. Not known if any are due to proximity to mineral deposits			Data Good – Published Annually	EH Buildings at Risk Register 2005. Site selection process.
Landscapes at Risk	Not yet available currently at pilot stage					Site selection process.
Monuments at Risk	Not yet available currently at pilot stage					Site selection process.

