

**Berkshire Joint Strategic Planning Unit
Detailed Mineral and Waste Development
Control Policies and Preferred Areas**

**Sustainability Appraisal /Strategic
Environmental Assessment**

Scoping Report

August 2007

Contents

Glossary	5
Background	13
Predicting the effects of the Minerals and Waste DPD	14
Habitats Directive	25
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	25
Consultation	25

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Glossary

Acronym	Term	Definition
	Aggregates	Sand, gravel and crushed rock (known as primary aggregates) and other mineral waste such as colliery spoil, industry wastes and recycled materials (known as secondary aggregates). Aggregates are used in the construction industry to produce concrete, mortar, asphalt, etc.
	Alternatives	Different ways of achieving the Plan objectives. Sometimes referred to as Options.
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report	A report that presents an analysis of existing ('saved') policies, progress on the Local Development Scheme (see below) and note if any adjustments to the scheme are needed.
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	Areas of land designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, where the primary purpose is the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, which includes protecting flora, fauna, geology and landscape features. Natural England is responsible for formally designated AONBs and advising on policies for their protection. Much of western Berkshire is within North Wessex Downs AONB.
	Area of Search	Mineral bearing areas within which planning permission for mineral extraction may be granted – subject to specific planning considerations, or a geographical area in which there may be one or more sites suitable for waste management related development
	Apportionment Rate	The specified rate of extraction of aggregates to be provided for in the mineral landbank
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area	Area designated (under the Environment Act) by local authorities following local assessment of air quality where individual pollutants are forecast to exceed standards defined in the National Air Quality Strategy.
	Biodegradable	Waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic decomposition, such as food and garden waste, and paper and paperboard
BMW	Biodegradable Municipal Waste	Waste from households, that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic decomposition, such as food and garden waste, and paper and paperboard

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Acronym	Term	Definition
	Borrow pit	Temporary mineral workings opened locally to supply material for a specific construction project
C & D	Construction and Demolition Waste	<p>Waste arising from construction and demolition activity and often referred to as inert. It forms a sub-group of Industrial Waste.</p> <p>Although often described as inert, that can be misleading as C & D waste may include material such as timber, paper and paint, which need to be separated out if the waste is to be re-used, e.g. as inert fill, or if disposed of at a site licensed only for inert waste.</p>
C & I	Commercial and Industrial Waste	Waste arising from premises used for industry, trade or business, and hence may include a wide range of waste material. – Commercial waste does not include sewage..
	Conservation Area	Area of special architectural or historical interest
	Cumulative Effects	Effects that result from changes caused by a project, plan, programme or policy in association with other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future plans and actions.
CWI	Clinical Waste Incinerator	A facility that can burn medical waste from hospitals and similar institutions.
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government	Replaces the ODPM (see below). The job of the Department for Communities and Local Government is to help create sustainable communities, working with other Government departments, local councils, businesses, the voluntary sector, and communities themselves.
DPD	Development Plan Document	A Local Development Document which forms part of the statutory development plan, including the Core Strategy, Proposals Map and Area Action Plans.
EA	Environment Agency	Public body for protecting and improving the environment in England and Wales.
	Indicator	Measurement of change to a system or objective
GOSE	Government Office South East	<p>The Government Office for the South East represents central Government in the South East, particularly the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; the Departments for Education and Skills; Trade and Industry; Transport; Culture, Media and Sport; Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; the Home Office.</p> <p>GOSE works to influence contract and develop government programmes and initiatives at a regional and local level, by working in partnership with relevant organisations to meet local needs.</p>

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Acronym	Term	Definition
JMWDF	Joint Minerals and Waste Development Framework	A collection of LDDs (see below) relating to mineral and waste issues for all six Berkshire Unitary Authorities.
JMWLDS	Joint Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme	A timetable and project plan for the production of all the LDDs (see below) relating to mineral and waste issues for all six Berkshire Unitary Authorities.
JSPU	Joint Strategic Planning Unit	Organisation set up to produce the structure plan and the minerals and waste local plans for the Berkshire area
	Landbank	A stock of mineral reserves with planning permission for extraction.
	Landfill	The disposal of waste material by tipping into voids in the ground. All landfills are classified as one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous; • Non-hazardous; • Non-hazardous with Stable Non-Reactive Hazardous Waste Cell (SNHRC); or • Inert.
LDD	Local Development Documents	The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 states, Local Development Documents will comprise both statutory development plan documents and non-statutory Supplementary Planning Documents. LDDs are likely to include core policies, area action plans, proposal map, site-specific policies and a Statement of Community Involvement.
LDF	Local Development Framework	A folder containing a number of documents including LDDs setting out a local authority's policies for meeting the economic, environmental and social aims of its area.
LDS	Local Development Scheme	A timetable and project plan for the production of all the LDDs relating to a LDF.
	Listed Building	Building included on a list of buildings of architectural or historic interest
	Mineral Deposits and Mineral Resources	Defined in planning terms as rock, or sand and gravel, or other material which has a commercial value for which it may be extracted
	Monitoring	Check of effectiveness of policies
MPA	Mineral Planning Authority	A local authority with responsibility for processing mineral applications.
MPG	Minerals Planning Guidance	Guidance setting out the Government's policy on mineral planning issues
MPS	Minerals Planning Statements	New format for guidance setting out the Government's policy on mineral planning issues. These will in time replace all MPGs.

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Acronym	Term	Definition
MRF	Material Recycling Facility	A special sorting 'factory' where mixed recyclables are separated into individual materials prior to despatch to reprocessors who wash and prepare the materials for manufacturing into new recycled products.
MSA	Mineral Safeguarding Area	An area identified in order to ensure due consideration of the possibility of mineral extraction prior to development, or of the compatibility with current or future mineral operations is undertaken in the determination of certain non mineral planning applications.
	Mitigation	Measures to avoid, reduce or offset the adverse effects of the plan on sustainability
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste	More commonly known as rubbish, trash or garbage — consists of everyday items such as product packaging, grass clippings, furniture, clothing, bottles, food scraps, newspapers, appliances, paint, and batteries.
	mt (pa)	Million Tonnes (per annum)
	Objective	Statement of what is intended, specifying the desired direction of change
ODPM	Office Deputy Prime Minister	Now replaced by the DCLG
PDL		Previously Developed Land
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance	Guidance issued by ODPM, setting out the Governments policy on planning issues.
PPS	Planning Policy Statements	New guidance issued by ODPM, setting out the Governments policy on planning issues. These will replace PPGs.
	Preferred Area	Identified site where there will be a general presumption in favour of mineral extraction or waste related development being granted planning permission – subject to specific planning considerations
	Primary Aggregates	Naturally occurring sand, gravel and hard rock used for construction purposes
	Recycled Materials	Aggregate materials that are recovered from construction and demolition processes and from excavation on construction sites.
RMLP	Replacement Minerals Local Plan	Strategic Minerals Plan for Berkshire covering the period up to the 31 st December 2006. Adopted 2001.
RPG	Regional Planning Guidance	Strategic Planning Guidance for the South East (see below) produced by GOSE. The Waste and Minerals part of the plan cover the period from 2001 to 2026.

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Acronym	Term	Definition
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategies	Strategy setting out the Government's planning and transport policy for each region for a 15-20 year period
RWS	Regional Waste Strategy	Strategic Strategy that sets regional targets for the diversion from landfill to recycling and composting.
	Safeguarding	A process introduced to a site is protected for development of a specific facility, for example a rail depot
SA	Sustainability Appraisal	A single appraisal tool which provides for the systematic identification and evaluation of the economic, social and environmental impacts of a proposal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation	Site of European conservation importance as a habitat for specified species.
Sand and Gravel		In Berkshire there are two main types of sand and gravel: sharp sand and gravel, suitable for most types of concreting purposes, and therefore an important material for the construction industry, and soft sand, suitable either as a fill material, or in limited circumstances as building sand for use in making mortar or plaster, or in asphaltting.
	Scheduled Ancient Monument	Nationally important archaeological site included in the Schedule of Ancient Monuments
	Scoping	Process of deciding the scope and level of detail of the SEA
	Screening	Process of deciding if a plan or programme requires an SEA or other assessment
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment	A process to ensure that significant environmental effects arising from policies, plans and programmes are identified, assessed, mitigated, communicated to decision-makers, monitored and that opportunities for public involvement are provided
	Secondary Aggregates	Mineral wastes and industrial by-products used in the construction industry. E.g. colliery spoil, china clay waste, slate waste, power station pulverised fuel ash.
SPA	Special Protection Area	Site of European importance for bird conservation.
SSSI	Site of Specific Scientific Interest	Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Areas of national nature conservation or wildlife importance protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. English Nature identifies SSSIs.

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Acronym	Term	Definition
UA	Unitary Authority	Administrative unit of Great Britain. Since 1996 the two-tier structure of local government has been replaced by unitary authorities, responsible for all local government services in Scotland and Wales, and in some parts of England, including Berkshire.
	Waste Hierarchy	A hierarchy of approaches to waste management, with 'reduction' the most preferred approach, followed by 're-use'; 'recycling, composting or energy recovery from waste'; and finally 'disposal'.
	Waste Disposal	The process by which residual waste that cannot be reused, recovered or recycled is finally disposed of. The most common forms of disposal are by landfill and incineration.
WLP	Waste Local Plan	Strategic Waste Plan for Berkshire covering the period up to the 31 st December 2006. Adopted 1998.
WTS	Waste Transfer Station	A facility where waste is unloaded in order to permit its preparation for further transport for recovery, treatment or disposal elsewhere.
	Waste Treatment	For the purposes of the Berkshire Minerals and Waste DPDs waste treatment means activities in the processing of waste prior to disposal most commonly through, for example, recovery, recycling composting and other mechanical or biological treatment.

Comments

We welcome your comments particularly on the following key issue: the method proposed to evaluate the effects of the Minerals and Waste DPD policies on the sustainability objectives and the criteria used to assess potential mineral and waste sites.

All comments should be received by the JSPU no later than 5th November 2007.

Replies should be sent to:

Joint Strategic Planning Unit
St Mary's House
c/o Town Hall
St Ives Road
Maidenhead SL6 1RF

Email : minerals.waste@rbwm.gov.uk
Tel: 01628 796518
Fax: :+44 (0)1628 796739

The information that you provide will be processed by the Joint Strategic Planning Unit (JSPU) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, to contribute to the Berkshire Unitary Authorities' Minerals and Waste Development Framework. Personal information given on this form will be used by the JSPU (and its agents) in connection with its statutory minerals and waste planning functions.

Please note that your comments may be made available for public inspection and you may be consulted at a later stage.

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Detailed Mineral and Waste Development Control Policies and Preferred Areas Sustainability Appraisal /Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report

1 Background

- 1.1 The six unitary authorities in Berkshire are currently producing a Joint Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework. This means that, while at present Minerals and Waste have separate Local Plans, these will be replaced by a single, combined Joint Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework (JMWLDF) for the six Unitary Authorities.
- 1.2 In compliance with the new Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the requirements of the SEA Regulations (Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations Statutory Instrument 2004 No 1633) the Minerals and Waste Local Development Documents (MWLDDs) making up the JMWLDF will be subject to a joint Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). To avoid any confusion the use of SA throughout this document will refer to both SEA and SA.
- 1.3 This report will be an SA Scoping Report for the Detailed Mineral and Waste Development Control Policies and Preferred Areas DPD¹ (Minerals and Waste DPD), which is one of the documents making up the JMWLDF.
- 1.4 This report follows guidance on how to apply the SA set out by the then ODPM² which in turn incorporates the requirements of the European directive on the SEA³.
- 1.5 The purpose of the SA is to promote sustainable development through the better integration of sustainability considerations in the preparation of the JMWLDDs.
- 1.6 The first stage of the SA process is scoping. This gives the opportunity to assess available information in order to agree the scope and level of detail of the SA, including social, environmental and economic effects and options to be considered (in relation to minerals and waste), assessment methods to be used, and the structure and content of the resulting environmental reports.
- 1.7 An extensive Scoping Report has already been produced, and revised following consultation, for the Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy (CSSA)⁴. This report is available to download from the JSPU website: www.berks-jspu.gov.uk. Much of the information already collected for the CSSA will be used in this Scoping Report and references will be made to the CS SA, where appropriate. This report is available to download from the JSPU website:

www.berks-jspu.gov.uk
- 1.8 The table below lists the contents of the Final Scoping Report produced for the MWLDDs and indicates where it is considered that changes need to be made for

¹ JLDPD102

² Guidance is set out in the Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks published in November 2005 (ODPM).

³ European Parliament. (2001) "The Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment", Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament, Luxembourg, 2001

⁴ Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Final Scoping Report. JSPU. June 2006.

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

this report:

Table 1 Changes required in Minerals and Waste DPD SA Scoping Report

Contents of MWLDDs Scoping Report	Changes Required
Scope of Report and Level of Detail	No change and no additional information required
A list of plans, programmes and sustainability objectives which the DPD should have regard to; (Section 2 and Appendix 1).	More emphasis to be given to the effects on climate change following the Stern Review ⁵ and the recent draft Planning Policy Statement on climate change ⁶
Baseline information to be used in the assessment; (Section 3 and Appendix 2).	No change and no additional information required
A list of sustainability issues, problems and opportunities; (Section 4).	No change and no additional information required
A list of suggested SA objectives and indicators; (Section 5 and Appendix 2). These objectives were defined following the review of other relevant plans and programmes (shown in Appendix 1), analysis of the baseline information (shown in Appendix 2) and of the specific environmental issues and opportunities (shown in Table 3) facing Berkshire.	No change to SA objectives (Revised scoping objectives following consultation to be used) but change to indicators which will be more relevant to the Minerals and Waste DPD.
A list of consultees; (Section 6 and Appendix 5).	No change and no additional information required
The next steps in the SA process. (Section 7).	No change required

2 Predicting the effects of the Minerals and Waste DPD

- 2.1 The Minerals and Waste Development Documents Final Scoping Report (June 2006)⁷ sets out a list of sustainability objectives, which was revised following consultation in January/February 2006. The Scoping Responses Report⁸ gives full details of the consultation and the revisions which were made. As a result of this exercise the revised objectives will be used to evaluate each of the sites.
- 2.2 The Minerals and Waste DPD SA will assess the effect which the options might have on the sustainability objectives.
- 2.3 The effect of each option will be assessed as ranging from very positive to very negative as shown in the key below.

Symbol	Effect
++	Very positive
+	Positive
0	Neutral or not significant
-	Negative
--	Very negative
NA	Not applicable

⁵ Stern Review: The Economics of Climate Change, HM Treasury (30 October 2006).

⁶ Consultation – Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change – Supplement to Planning Policy Statement 1. Dec DCLG.2006.

⁷ Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment Final Scoping Report. June 2006. JSPU. JMW 200

⁸ Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Responses Report. JSPU. May 2006. JMW 200c

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

The table below sets out the sustainability objectives which will be used for evaluating the options set out in the Minerals and Waste DPD, how effects on them will be measured and the evidence base which will be used.

Table 2 SA Objectives to be used to evaluate the Minerals and Waste DPD options

SA Objectives	Comments	Indicator	Target	Evidence Base
1. Protect important mineral reserves and minimise sterilisation by non-mineral development.	Berkshire will have to contribute to the sub-regional apportionment set out in Regional Planning Guidance for the South East – Waste and Minerals (June 2006). The sterilisation of sites will make this more difficult to achieve. However potential safeguarding of sites could mean the possible achievement of this objective is High.	Planning permissions granted on known Mineral Safeguarding Areas.	90% of identified, commercially viable, mineral resources to be protected from sterilisation	British Geological Maps Local Development Control Records
2. Contribute to meeting Berkshire's sub-regional apportionment	Berkshire will have to contribute to the sub-regional apportionment set out in Regional Planning Guidance for the South East – Waste and Minerals (June 2006) to support the high forecasts in household growth. Possible achievement of this objective is High.	Annual production of primary won aggregates & secondary/recycled aggregates	Provision for 1.57 mtpa	AMR
3. Increase the use of secondary or recycled materials	Berkshire will have to meet recycling targets, targets for diversion of municipal waste away from landfill and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme. Possible achievement of this objective is High.	Waste recycling Commercial/ industrial Waste composted Waste used to recover heat/power/other energy Total tonnes of recycled aggregates	As RPG 9 Waste policy – 52% of waste should be recovered/ recycled by 2010. Year on year increase in supply of recycled aggregates towards target of .7 mtpa in 2016	AMR Waste Data Flow (MSW only) Environment Agency SEERA LATS DEFRA

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

SA Objectives	Comments	Indicator	Target	Evidence Base
4. To minimise waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	Waste generation and disposal will have to be minimised in Berkshire if targets for diversion of municipal waste away from landfill and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme are to be met. Possible achievement of this objective is High.	Waste Arisings: Inert C & D Special Municipal Industrial/ Commercial	RPG 9 Waste policy – 52% of waste should be recovered/ recycled by 2010.	The EA Strategic Waste Management Assessment Environment Agency SEERA LATS DEFRA
5. To ensure an adequate network of waste management facilities to meet Berkshire's waste requirements	To meet requirements set out in PPS10 an adequate network of waste facilities must be ensured. Possible achievement of this objective medium as provision will also be dependent on market forces	Number of new waste management facilities granted in Berkshire	Capacity to beat least equal to demand thus ensuring self-sufficiency for Berkshire's waste arisings.	Environment Agency UAs
6. To increase energy efficiency and the production of renewable energy	Possible achievement of this objective low as dependent on market forces Also, this may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process.	Number of new energy producing waste schemes granted planning permission.	To contribute to targets in RPG9 Chapter 10 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.	Local Development Control Records
7. Minimise public nuisance from mineral workings and waste sites	Potential nuisance of noise, traffic, congestion, visual intrusion and odours will be a major factor for residents Possible achievement of this objective is high as planning permission can be refused or enforcement carried out if conditions regarding nuisance are not met. However, this may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process.	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.	To be determined following collection of baseline data and in conjunction with Local Authority.	Local UA records of complaints received by & enforcement action taken

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

SA Objectives	Comments	Indicator	Target	Evidence Base
8. Give thorough consideration to proximity of mineral workings and waste management facilities or ancillary development to settlements and individual properties.	The proximity of mineral and waste workings will be a major factor for residents Possible achievement of this objective is high as sites can be rejected if they are less than a specified distance from settlements.	Number of permissions granted for mineral or waste developments within a pre-defined distance of settlement/residential properties.	To emerge from LDF process	Planning Applications G.I.S.
9. Encourage the use of previously developed land and prevent loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.	Mineral workings are temporary in nature and sites can be restored to original standard. Possible achievement of this objective is low as minerals can only be extracted where they occur and this may be on the best and most versatile agricultural land.	% of new development on previously developed land (PDL)	To emerge from LDF process	Planning Applications G.I.S.
10. Consider the early planning of mineral working and waste site restoration and ensure land is restored and maintained to an appropriate standard for use as e.g. recreational facilities, nature reserves, agricultural use, water storage or flood management	Many of the potential mineral sites are, or could be, important areas for recreation, nature reserves, agriculture etc. Possible achievement of this objective is high as planning permission can be refused or enforcement carried out if proposals or conditions regarding restoration are not met. However, this may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process.	Number of sites not restored within timescale of planning permission	To emerge from LDF process	Local Development Control Records
		Number of new developments which will impact on areas of landscape importance		Local Development Control Records. G.I.S
		Loss of access to rights of way etc Areas of common land		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)		Local Development Control Records. G.I.S.

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

SA Objectives	Comments	Indicator	Target	Evidence Base
11. Safeguard mineral distribution nodes such as rail facilities	A limited number of minerals will be able to be extracted and transported by rail. Possible achievement of this objective is High.	Number of new developments on distribution nodes	To emerge from LDF process	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S
12. 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 minerals and waste will only be able to be extracted and transported by road. Possible achievement of this objective is therefore low. However, this may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process	Number of new developments on distribution nodes	To emerge from LDF process	Local Development Control Records. G.I.S
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	Responses received from English Nature and the Countryside Agency following consultation confirmed that this is considered to be a very important sustainability objective. The importance of biodiversity, geodiversity and important environmental sites is supported by baseline data. Possible achievement of this objective is medium. Many of the important environmental areas are very fragile and the effects of mineral extraction may not be able to be accurately forecast both in the short and long term. Additionally, the full impact may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process	Site quality	95% of SSSIs to be in favourable condition by 2010. Additional targets to emerge from LDF process	TVERC (Figures from July 2005 EN data version) G.I.S

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

SA Objectives	Comments	Indicator	Target	Evidence Base
<p>14. Take effective measures to control emissions to air, dust, groundwater, surface water and soils and minimise adverse effects on climate change</p>	<p>Responses received from English Nature following consultation confirmed that this is considered to be a very important sustainability objective. The importance of adverse effects on climate change is supported by the baseline data. Possible achievement of this objective is medium. It will be very difficult to isolate and forecast the effects on climate change of an individual mineral site. Additionally, the full impact may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process</p>	<p>Significant reduction in complaints to enforcement/environmental health officers relating to mineral and waste activities</p> <p>Pollution incidents investigated by EA</p>	<p>To emerge from LDF process</p>	<p>UA and EA records.</p>
<p>15. Minimise risk of flooding</p>	<p>The majority of potential mineral sites in Berkshire are located in river valleys which are designated Zone 2 (Medium Probability of flooding or Zone 3a (High Probability of flooding) or 3b (Functional Floodplain) in PPS 25. However, sand and gravel workings are designated as a water compatible use. PPS 25 also states that climate change is likely to lead to increased risk of flooding. Possible achievement of this objective is medium and the full impact may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process.</p>	<p>Number of mineral and waste sites granted planning permission in flood zones 2 and 3.</p> <p>Number of restoration schemes that involve flood protection</p>	<p>To emerge from LDF process</p>	<p>Local Development Control Records. G.I.S</p>

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

SA Objectives	Comments	Indicator	Target	Evidence Base
<p>16. Minimise impact on Places and buildings of archaeological, cultural and historic value</p>	<p>The Monuments At Risk Survey of England 1995 (Darvill and Fulton 1998) demonstrated that mineral extraction has had a significant impact on archaeological monuments and ancient monuments. Possible achievement of this objective is high although the full impact may not be able to be evaluated until a later stage of the site selection process.</p>	<p>Number of new planning permissions which would impact on important historic buildings, monuments and areas</p>	<p>To emerge from LDF process</p>	<p>Local Development Control Records. G.I.S</p>
		<p>Buildings at Risk</p>		<p>EH Buildings at Risk Register 2005.</p>
		<p>Landscapes at Risk</p>		<p>Site selection process. Site selection process.</p>
		<p>Monuments at Risk</p>		<p>Site selection process.</p>

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

The following factors will be used to evaluate potential sites and locations for mineral sites and landfill activities

Table 3 Environmental criteria to be used to evaluate potential sites and locations for mineral sites and landfill activities

Criteria	Detailed Matters for consideration
Environment and Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Protection Areas - Thames Basin Heaths SPA • Special Areas of Conservation – Windsor Great Park; South West London Waterbodies in Windsor and Maidenhead and immediately east of the Borough, Kennett and Lambourn Floodplain, Kennet Valley Alderwoods; River Lambourn, West Berkshire/Ramsar Sites • Sites of Special Scientific Interest distributed throughout Berkshire • National and Local Nature Reserves • Regionally Important Geological Sites • Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation • protected species • ancient woodland
Landscape/Visual issues and other strategic constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape and townscape character • North Wessex Downs AONB • Metropolitan Green Belt • Local landscape designations
Historic Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listed buildings • Conservation Areas • Scheduled Ancient Monuments • Historic parks and gardens • Archaeological resources including historic landscapes
Environmental Health and Public Amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noise, dust, air quality, smell, light, vibration etc • impact on residents and neighbouring land-uses • impact on recreation and other users of the countryside
Water Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood risk zones, e.g. Thames valley, Kennet valley, Colne Valley • Movement of surface and groundwater, e.g. through valley gravel deposits • Surface and groundwater pollution prevention
Agricultural land and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best and most versatile land (grades 1, 2, and 3a)

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Criteria	Detailed Matters for consideration
Soil Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pollution prevention
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• access to the site in detail• network capacity in the vicinity• modes of transport – opportunities for alternatives• lorry routing
Public Rights of Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• impact on users of Public Rights of Way• impacts on the PRow network

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

The following factors are amongst those which will be used to evaluate potential sites and locations for waste activities.

Table 4 Environmental criteria to be used to evaluate potential sites and locations for waste activities

Criteria	Detailed Matters for consideration
Location – urban, urban fringe or open countryside	
Previously Developed Land	
Adjoining land uses	
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to, and accessibility from, sources of waste arisings • access to the site in detail • network capacity in the vicinity • modes of transport – opportunities for alternatives • lorry routing
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing use of the site (e.g. industrial employment sites may be appropriate locations) and adjacent uses • Brownfield redevelopment opportunities
Environmental Health and Public Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noise, dust, smell, light, vibration, air quality (including relationship to any designated AQMA, etc) • impact on residents and neighbouring land-uses • impact on recreation and other users of the countryside
Water Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flood risk zones, e.g. Thames valley, Kennet valley, Colne Valley • movement of surface and groundwater, e.g. through valley gravel deposits • surface and groundwater pollution prevention
Agricultural land and Soil Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • best and most versatile land (grades 1, 2, and 3a) • pollution prevention
Landscape/Visual issues and other strategic constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • landscape and townscape character • North Wessex Downs AONB • Metropolitan Green Belt

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Criteria	Detailed Matters for consideration
Nature Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Protection Areas - Thames Basin Heaths SPA • Special Areas of Conservation – Windsor Great Park; South West London Waterbodies in Windsor and Maidenhead and immediately east of the Borough, Kennett and Lambourn Floodplain, Kennet Valley Alderwoods; River Lambourn, West Berkshire/Ramsar Sites • Sites of Special Scientific Interest distributed throughout Berkshire • National and Local Nature Reserves • Regionally Important Geological Sites • Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation • protected species • ancient woodland
Historic Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listed buildings • Conservation Areas • Scheduled Ancient Monuments • historic parks and gardens • archaeological resources including historic landscapes
Public rights of way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impact on users of Public Rights of Way • impacts on the PRow network

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

3 Habitats Directive

- 3.1 Screening under the Habitats Directive - A separate screening exercise on the need for Habitats Appropriate Assessments (AA), is also being carried out. This is in consideration of Regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (SI 1994 No.2716) on Natura 2000 sites in relation to both Mineral and Waste Facilities.

The AA will evaluate if policies and proposals in the Minerals and Waste LDF could have a significant environmental effect on: Thatcham Reedbeds SPA/Ramsar site, Thames Basin Heaths SAC/SPA and London Reservoirs SPA. .

4 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- 4.1 In accordance with Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has also been published for consultation.
- 4.2 Berkshire has two major rivers, the Thames and the Kennet, both of which have extensive floodplains. Berkshire is also criss-crossed by a number of other rivers, tributaries and canals. Flooding is therefore a particularly important issue for many Berkshire residents and businesses, and it is important that planning policies avoid increasing, and where possible reduce, the risk of flooding. The Flood Risk Assessment will be used to assess the level of flood risk which could result from planning policies.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation on this stage of this work helps ensure that the SA will be comprehensive and robust enough to support the DPD during later stages of full public consultation and examination. The consultation period for the Scoping Report will take place between 24th September and 5th November 2007.
- 5.2 The SEA directive (Article 5.4) requires that authorities with environmental responsibility must be consulted. Those consulted on the scoping report included the English Heritage, Natural England, the Environment Agency and other appropriate social and economic consultees.

Minerals and Waste DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Let us know your views

We will be consulting on the Sustainability Appraisal for the Core Strategy, the SA Scoping Report for the Minerals and Waste DPD, the SFRA and the Strategic Transport Assessment between 24th September and 5th November.

To let us know your views please:

Download a copy of the reports and/or response forms from www.berks-jspu.gov.uk

Call 01628 796518 to request a paper copy of the reports and/or response forms.

Email minerals.waste@rbwm.gov.uk to receive an electronic copy of the response forms and/or the reports.

Email any comments to minerals.waste@rbwm.gov.uk or send them to the following address:
Joint Strategic Planning Unit, St Mary's House, C/O Town Hall, St Ives Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1 RF

These reports can be viewed at the main planning receptions of each of the six Berkshire Unitary Authorities and at main libraries in Berkshire.

All information will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act and will not be passed on to any third party. The comments received will be publicly reported and a schedule of comments produced.