

MATTER 8: MINERALS
SUGGESTED CHANGES – RSS REVOCATION AND RELATED ISSUES

MATTER	ISSUE	ACTION	POSITION TO REPORT TO EXAMINATION	SOUNDNESS
8 MIN2 Policy Justification	Suggested replacement of paragraph 8.23 with a new paragraph summarising the national guideline requirements for aggregates.	Subject to agreement	<p>Proposed change:</p> <p>Delete paragraph and replace with the following: <u>“Revised national and regional guidelines for aggregates provision were published in June 2009, covering the period 2005 - 2020. The guidelines propose that the West Midlands region (which includes the Black Country) will produce 165 million tonnes of primary land-won sand and gravel (i.e. sand and gravel extracted from quarries) between 2005 and 2020. This equates to 10.31 million tonnes per annum. It is assumed that the West Midlands will produce a further 100 million tonnes of alternative materials (secondary and recycled aggregates) over the same period. This equates to 6.25 million tonnes per annum.”</u></p>	Change does not affect soundness as it is updating of background information, reflecting the revocation of the RSS and the current national policy requirements for aggregates.

<p>8 MIN2 Policy Justification</p>	<p>Suggested new paragraph 8.23A explaining how sub-regional apportionments are now determined, and how the Core Strategy contributes towards the revised sub-regional sand and gravel apportionment for the West Midlands County.</p>	<p>Subject to agreement</p>	<p>Suggested new paragraph as follows:</p> <p><u>“Each mineral planning authority is expected to make provision for future aggregates supply in its Core Strategy, in accordance with agreed “apportionments” based on technical advice provided by Aggregates Working Parties, or alternatives based on robust evidence (MPS1, Annex 1 and advice to Chief Planning Officers dated 6 July 2010). The previous aggregates apportionments for the West Midlands were reviewed following the publication of the national and regional guidelines and the results were published in March 2010. A number of options were developed through technical work undertaken by Land Use Consultants and the Aggregates Working Party. The majority of Aggregates Working Party representatives in the</u></p>	<p>Change does not affect soundness as it is updating of background information, reflecting the revocation of the RSS and the current arrangements for sub-regional apportionment of aggregates.</p>
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			<u>West Midlands (including the Black Country Authorities) supported apportionments based on a 10-year average (mean) of past sales.</u>	
8 MIN2 Policy Justification	Suggest amendment to paragraph 8.24 to reflect revised sub-regional sand and gravel apportionment which is supported by the majority of Regional Aggregate Party representatives (Option 1c – see Appendix A of CDE13). Also suggest inserting a new Table 19a showing how the apportionment translates into sand and gravel landbank requirements for the West Midlands County up to and beyond 2026.	Subject to agreement	Amend second sentence of paragraph as follows: “The Black Country is therefore expected to contribute towards the West Midlands County Area apportionment for sand and gravel, which is currently 0.506 <u>0.550</u> million tonnes per annum. <u>To provide a minimum 7-year rolling landbank of sand and gravel to 2026 and beyond in line with the apportionment, as required by national policy guidance (MPS1, Annex 1), the West Midlands County needs to identify permitted reserves and additional resources equivalent to 8.54 million tonnes (see Table 19a below).</u> The only authorities which currently contribute towards this apportionment...”	Change does not affect soundness as it is updating of background information, reflecting the revocation of the RSS and the current arrangements for sub-regional apportionment of aggregates. An appropriate contribution towards the apportionment is planned for in the Core Strategy, so although the apportionment has increased, there is no impact on soundness. Having established what the apportionment should be, it is now possible to quantify the West Midlands County sand and gravel landbank requirement to 2026 – a new Table 19a summarising this can be inserted (see Appendix below).

<p>8 MIN2 Policy Justification</p>	<p>Suggest amendment to paragraph 8.25 to reflect amendments to paragraphs 8.23 – 8.24. Also to clarify that the provision in the Core Strategy contributes towards the sub-regional apportionment, and how the evidence for the Core Strategy has contributed to the apportionment.</p>	<p>Subject to agreement</p>	<p>Suggest the first three sentences (including Proposed Change) be deleted and the remainder of the paragraph be amended as follows:</p> <p><u>“The annual sand and gravel production target in the policy is based on the best and most up-to-date evidence available for what the area Black Country can realistically provide contribute towards the sub-regional apportionment and has been fed through into the regional review. This evidence was made available to Land Use Consultants and to the Aggregates Working Party for the technical work undertaken during the review of the sub-regional apportionments, and was reflected in the options which were developed.</u></p>	<p>Change does not affect soundness as it removes obsolete background information and provides further clarification.</p>
<p>8 MIN2 Policy Justification</p>	<p>Suggested changes to Table 20 to update information.</p>	<p>Subject to agreement</p>	<p>Proposed changes:</p> <p>First row: Source of Supply: Permitted Reserves @ 31.12.07 08</p>	<p>Change does not affect soundness as it updates background information.</p>

			<p>Estimated Quantity of Sand and Gravel (million tonnes): 0.3 around <u>0.2</u> Source of Evidence: 2007 <u>2008</u> WMRAWP Annual survey</p> <p>Last row: Total: Estimated Quantity of Sand and Gravel (million tonnes): 4.1 <u>4.0</u></p>	
8 MIN2 Policy Justification	Suggested change to paragraph 8.30 to update information and reflect suggested change to paragraph 8.24 and new Table 19a.	Subject to agreement	<p>Proposed change:</p> <p><u>“At the end of December 2007-2008, total permitted sand and gravel resources in Walsall the West Midlands County were estimated to have been around 300,000 5.21 million tonnes (data from the 2007-2008 WMRAWP annual survey). The proportion of these reserves in the Black Country (Walsall) is very small (less than 5%). However, the Core Strategy identifies around 4.0 million tonnes of permitted reserves and other resources within the two Areas of Search in Walsall, equivalent to nearly half of the</u></p>	Change does not affect soundness as it updates background information and explains how the Core Strategy contributes towards sub-regional sand and gravel landbank requirements.

			<u>sub-regional landbank requirement (see Table 20). The Core Strategy therefore makes adequate provision for the Black Country to contribute appropriately towards sub-regional requirements.”</u>	
8 MIN2 Policy Justification	<p>Suggest amendment to paragraph 8.31 to remove reference to RSS Phase 3 Revision and to clarify that the Black Country Core Strategy does not determine the “share” of the sub-regional sand and gravel apportionment to be met within Solihull – this can only be established through the Solihull Core Strategy.</p>	Subject to agreement	<p>Proposed change:</p> <p><u>“This equates to around less than 10% of the West Midlands Country apportionment as proposed in the RSS Phase 3 Revision Options. However, there is no presumption that Solihull will be able to contribute the remainder of the apportionment. The “share” of the sub-regional apportionment to be met from within Solihull Borough will be determined through the Solihull Core Strategy.</u></p>	<p>Change does not affect soundness as it updates background information and clarifies that the Black Country Core Strategy does not in any way “bind” Solihull to meet the remainder of the apportionment as this is a matter to be determined through the Solihull Core Strategy.</p>
8 MIN5	<p>Suggest amendment to paragraph 2 of the policy to remove reference to RSS.</p>	Subject to agreement	<p>Proposed change:</p> <p>“All proposals should set out the contribution they will</p>	<p>Change does not affect soundness as it is a minor change reflecting the revocation of the RSS.</p>

			make towards the mineral production and supply targets in Policies MIN2 and MIN3 and RSS (such as the extent of reserves and anticipated annual production rates)...”	
8 MIN5 Policy Justification	Suggest amendment to paragraph 8.67, 3 rd bullet, to remove reference to RSS.	Subject to agreement	Proposed change to paragraph 8.67, 3 rd bullet: “Contributing towards the mineral supply and production targets set out in the RSS and in Policies MIN2 and MIN3 of the Core Strategy”	Change does not affect soundness as it is a minor change reflecting the revocation of the RSS.

Appendix:

Suggested Table 19a: West Midlands County Sand and Gravel Landbank – Current and Future Requirements 2008 - 2026

Total Apportionment 2005 – 2020 (million tonnes)	Annual Production Requirement (million tonnes)	Landbank – Permitted Reserves @ 31.12.08 (million tonnes)	Permitted Reserves Required for 7-year Landbank @ 31.12.08 (million tonnes)	Permitted Reserves Required for Landbank 2008-2020 + 7 Years (19 years) (million tonnes)	Shortfall – Reserves Required to Provide Landbank to 2020 (million tonnes)	Permitted Reserves Required for Landbank 2008-2026 + 7 Years (25 years) (million tonnes)	Shortfall – Reserves Required to Provide Landbank to 2026 (million tonnes)
8.800	0.550	5.210	3.850	10.450	5.240	13.750	8.540

Note: This apportionment relates to the West Midlands County which includes Birmingham, Coventry and Solihull as well as the Black Country. It is based on sub-regional apportionments which reflect the national and regional guidelines published in June 2009, and which were supported by the majority of Aggregates Working Party representatives (Option 1c - see Report to West Midlands Regional Assembly Board of Directors 17 March 2010: Sub-Regional Apportionment of Aggregates: 2005 – 2020, Appendix A)