

Pre Hearing questions from the Inspector to NCC concerning Matter 2 Issue 1 and to a lesser Matter 3 Issue 2

The Council have been asked to provide responses at the relevant Hearing session(s).

Matter 2 - Does the Plan make appropriate provision for the steady and adequate supply of aggregates?

Issue 1 - Policy 1

Q1) The National Planning Policy Framework requires suitable landbanks for sand and gravel and crushed rock to be maintained. Should this include, at the end of the plan period?

Q2) What would be the implications of altering Policy 1 to include the increased provisions to meet landbanks at the end of the plan period?

Subsequent / Related Matters

Q1) What is the purpose of the Plan review? On one hand it has been updated with recent planning permissions for minerals provision, but on the other hand, it hasn't done so for waste. Is it seeking to or should it update the overall provision requirements for minerals & waste?

Q2) There is case law, most notably *Gladman Development Limited v Wokingham Borough Council [2014] EWHC 2320 (Admin)*, which confirms that the provisions of a parent plan (such as a Core Strategy) does not need to be reviewed in a lower tier plan (i.e. a site allocations plan). However, as a 'catch all' Plan, should the review be seeking to be up-to-date in all regards? Including its provisions and its plan period?

Q3) The Local Aggregates Assessment (2015) seems to suggest a lower annual figure could be suitable for both sand & gravel and crushed rock. Are the overall provision figures in Policy 1 therefore, out-of-date? Should the Plan be based on up-to-date evidence?