

West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Examination – Post Hearings Tasks

Note on Inert Fill Availability in Relation to Restoration of Allocated Sites

1. Inert fill for the restoration of mineral voids is sourced from Construction, Demolition and Excavation (CDE) waste. The Local Waste Assessment 2020 **[WE001]** (LWA) identifies that between 218,748 – 347,089 tonnes of CDE waste was generated within West Berkshire in 2018. A baseline figure of 462,903 tonnes was chosen, based on an average of the previous five years estimates of CDE waste arisings (Modified DEFRA methodology).
2. Restoration of mineral workings may be viewed as recovery or disposal operations depending on the specific details of the development. Generally, where a local plan provides for the backfilling of a mineral void for a specific afteruse and the development facilitates the same using the minimum volume of inert waste necessary then it should be deemed 'recovery'. This is set out in the South East Waste Planning Advisory Group Joint Position Statement on the Deposit of Inert Waste **[CD006E]** paragraph 2.2.4.10.
3. The LWA 2020, at Table 5.2 identifies that in 2018, 115,156 tonnes of CDE waste was deposited to land, either as landfill or on/in land for recovery. Estimates from the five-year period 2014 – 2018 range from 103,672 – 174,396 tonnes of CDE waste deposited to land.
4. The estimated production rates at Chieveley and Tidney Bed are 40,000 tpa and 100,000 tpa respectively [Chieveley rate taken from – PS3/3, p.2 & Tidney Bed rate taken from - CD003G, p.99]. If both sites were active and producing at these rates at the same time, then approximately 140,000 tonnes would be required for infill to facilitate the progressive restoration of these sites.
5. It can be seen that if 140,000 tonnes of material is required per annum, then based on recent figures in the LWA 2020, approximately this amount is demonstrated to be available in West Berkshire, and therefore the sites can reasonably be considered to be able to be restored to their intended afteruse in a timely manner.