

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Section 78 Town and County Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 Town and Country Planning (Inquiries Procedure) (England) Rules 2002

Re-Determined Appeal by NRS Aggregates Limited

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**1. Introduction**

## 2. Mineral Matters on which parties agree

### Local Aggregate Assessment

- 2.1 The most recent published data with regard to sand and gravel reserves is within the 'Worcestershire Local Aggregate Assessment: Data covering the period up to 31/12/2022' herein referred to as the LAA. The annual production guideline for sand and gravel identified by the LAA is 0.667 million tonnes per annum (mtpa), derived for the 10-year sales average +20%.
- 2.2 This is lower than both the sub-regional apportionment derived from the 'National and regional guidelines for aggregate provision in England' of 0.871 million tonnes per annum<sup>1</sup>, and the previous approach undertaken by Worcestershire County Council which was to use the 10-year sales average +50%.
- 2.3 The LAA states at paragraph 1.8 that "Based on this production guideline and the stock of permitted reserves of 5.06 million tonnes, Worcestershire had a landbank of 7.59 years at 31 December 2022. This is slightly above the minimum ~~year~~ landbank required by national policy".
- 2.4 The landbank of 7.59 years stated by Worcestershire County Council is an increase on the landbank agreed at the previous inquiry (SoCG 15 February 2023 – 5.74 years: **CD13.27**).
- 2.5 The increase in the landbank has not come about due to the Council approving mineral applications. Rather, the improved landbank has been achieved by utilising the updated apportionment of 10 years + 20%.
- 2.6 This LAA is the most recent published, which is the period up to 31/12/2022.

### Planning Permissions following publication of most recent LAA data

- 2.7 A review of planning permissions since 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 has been undertaken and included below:

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(20/000042/CM) was refused in 2021, with this application being a resubmission to address reasons for refusal. In February 2024, the applicant confirmed that mineral extraction and inert waste importation and placement had been completed and only restoration operations remained; and

- o Permission was granted on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 for completion of restoration works. As set out in Condition 6 of Planning Permission 21/000036/CM “This permission does not authorise any further mineral extraction or importation of waste or soils to the site from the date of this permission” as a result, the permission does not increase the level of permitted reserves or landbank.

#### Permitted Mineral Reserve

2.8 The following mineral sites constitute the permitted mineral reserve within Worcestershire.

- Chadwich Lane Quarry
  - o Planning Permission granted on 26 March 2021 (Ref: 18/000036/CM) for the extraction of approximately 1.35 million tonnes of sand to be extracted at a rate of approximately 100,000 tonnes per annum; and
  - o Currently undetermined planning application (Ref: 23/000045/CM) principally seeks to permit an updated drainage strategy to enable works to commence in phase 2. The application does not propose an amended output or quantity of mineral resource from the quarry, however, extraction operations have been delayed.
- Wildmoor Quarry
  - o Site currently operates under ROMP Permission Ref: 107104 approved on 20

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<b>Permitted mineral reserves as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 (as stated within the LAA)</b>	<b>5.06mt</b>
Extraction for 2023 – Utilising Annual Apportionment	- 0.667mt
<b>Total permitted mineral reserves as of 31 December 2023</b>	<b>4.393mt</b>
<b>Landbank as of 31 December 2023</b>	<b>6.59 years</b>

- 2.10 As of the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, the calculated sand and gravel landbank for Worcestershire is 6.59 years. Worcestershire therefore cannot demonstrate a 7 year landbank of sand and gravel.

Permitted Mineral Productive Capacity and Lifespan

- 2.11 Table 2 below provides a summary of the permitted mineral reserve site's cessation dates.

**Table 2– Permitted Sand and Gravel Quarry Cessation Dates**

<b>Quarry</b>	<b>Approximate Annual Output Tonnes Per Annum</b>	<b>Cessation Date</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Chadwich Lane Quarry	100,000	2037	Conditioned to cease 31 December 2037

	250,000		states operations commenced in March 2023 and will likely be completed by January 2025.
Bow Farm			



approximately 0.71 years.

- Uckinghall Quarry– (23/000049/CM)
  - o Planning application reference 23/000049/CM was registered on 01 February 2024 to extract approximately 755,000 tonnes of sand and gravel at a rate of between 270,000tpa and 300,000tpa. The mineral would be transported via conveyor to the existing Ryall Quarry Plant Site.

### 3. Waste Matters on which parties agree

#### Context

- 3.1 To restore the site, the Appellant is proposing to import approximately 600,000 m<sup>3</sup> of inert material (equating to about 1,020,000 tonnes), importing approximately 60,000 m<sup>3</sup> of inert material per annum (equating to about 102,000 tonnes per annum). Inert materials will not



19/0081/TWMAJM, and Appeal Ref: APP/T1600/W/23/3324695) has also been granted planning permission for:

“Proposed extraction of sand and gravel with restoration using site derived and imported inert material to wetland, nature conservation and agriculture (cross boundary application) on land at Bow Farm, Bow Lane, Ripple, Worcestershire”.

#### West Midlands Metropolitan Districts


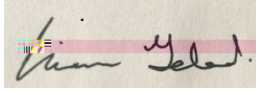
- 3.13 In terms of the West Midlands Metropolitan Districts, Meriden Quarry (Area G) is the only EA permitted landfill accepting inert waste. The total inert waste received at Meriden Quarry in 2021 was 783,452 tonnes, 2022 was 727,882 tonnes, 2023 was 688,442 tonnes and for Q1 of 2024 a total of 202,848 tonnes. Meriden Quarry is operated by the Appellants, therefore if required, 60,000m<sup>3</sup> per annum could be redirected from Meriden Quarry to Lea Castle Farm to enable restoration.
- 3.14 In addition to Meriden, the Appellant operate

2020: No capacity gap for disposal and landfill

2019: No capacity gap for disposal and landfill

- 3.17 Explanation: The amount of inert waste landfilled in Worcestershire was 123,218 tonnes in 2021, leading to a cumulative 1,188,940 tonnes of inert waste landfilled in the county since 2009. This is 37% above the cumulative projection of 869,385 tonnes made in the Waste Strategy. As of 2021, there were 875,214 cubic metres of available void space across the



Signed on behalf of Minerals Planning Authority		Signed on behalf of Appellant	
Organisation	Worcestershire County Council	Organisation	Liam Toland Planning
Signature		Signature	
Name	Rachel Hill	Name	Liam Toland
Qualification	BEng (Hons)	Qualification	BA (Hons), MSc, MRTPI
Date	13/09/2024	Date	12/09/2024