


Part 1 – Respondent Details

1(a) Personal details		
Title	Mrs	
First Name	Helen	
Last Name	Marshall	
Job Title (where relevant)	Director	
Organisation (where relevant)	CPRE Oxfordshire	
1(b) Agent details <i>Only complete if an agent has been appointed</i>		
Title		
First Name		
Last Name		
Job Title (where relevant)		
Organisation (where relevant)		
1(c) Contact address details <i>If an agent has been appointed please give their contact details</i>		
Address Line 1	20 High Street	
Line 2	Watlington	
Line 3	Oxfordshire	
Line 4		
Postcode	OX49 5PY	
Telephone No.	01491 612079	
Email address	campaign@cpreoxon.org.uk	

Are you writing as	A resident A local business Minerals industry Waste industry	A parish council A district council A county council Other (please specify): <i>Registered charity</i>
Please tick the appropriate boxes if you wish to be notified of any of the following:	CPRE Oxfordshire	
That the Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Core Strategy has been submitted for independent examination	✓	
Publication of the Inspector's report and recommendations	✓	
Adoption of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy	✓	

Please sign and date the form:			
Signature:		Date:	28/9/15

Part 2 – Representation

Please complete this part (Part 2) of the form separately for each separate representation you wish to make.

You can find an explanation of the terms used below in the accompanying guidance on making representations.

2(a) State which part of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy you are making a representation about

Part or policy no. or paragraph

Statement of Community Involvement

Core strategy policies M2, M3, M4, M5

Local Aggregates Assessment Tables 2 and 3 and associated text

2(b) Do you consider the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy is: (tick as appropriate)

(i) Legally compliant? Yes No

(ii) Sound? Yes No

If you have answered **No** to question 2(b)(ii), please continue to question 2(c). In all other cases, please go to question 2(d).

2(c) Do you consider the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy is **unsound because it is not**: (tick as appropriate)

(i) Positively prepared

(ii) Justified

(iii) Effective

(iv) Consistent with national policy

On the following pages, please set out why you think the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy is legally non-compliant and/or unsound and any changes you are suggesting should be made to it that would make it legally compliant or sound.

Please note your representation should include as succinctly as possible all the information and evidence necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested change, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further representations based on your representation at this stage.

After this stage, further submissions will be only at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he/she identifies for examination.

2(d) Please give details of why you consider the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy is not legally compliant or is unsound. Please be as precise as possible.

If you agree that the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy is legally compliant and/or sound and wish to support this, please also use this box to set out your comments.

Please see attached statement

Continue on a separate sheet or expand the box if necessary

2(e) Please set out the changes(s) you consider necessary to make the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy legally compliant or sound, having regard to the reason you have identified at 2(c) above where this relates to soundness. You should say why this change will make the Core Strategy legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

A. The failure to comply with the Council's SCI is now a matter of history. It is considered important to record this failure because consultation with those affected by decisions might have led to significant amendments.

B. Deletion of the LAA and reference to its findings in the strategy and replacement by calculations following the 10 year averaging rule.

C. Insertion of conclusions about new sites for working in the light of application of the 10 year rule.

Continue on a separate sheet or expand the box if necessary.

2(f) Written representations or oral hearing

If your representation is seeking a change to the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral hearing part of the examination? *(tick box below as appropriate)*

No, I wish to communicate through written representations	
Yes, I wish to participate at the oral hearing part of the examination (go to 2(g))	√

Please note the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated they wish to participate at the hearing part of the examination.

2(g) If you wish to participate at the hearing part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary.

In order to present the concerns of CPRE's membership in respect of both the LAA figuring and the Strategy's failure to provide assurance on the specific location of new working if such were found appropriate.

Continue on a separate sheet or expand the box if necessary

OXFORDSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN

Part 1 Core Strategy and Local Aggregates Assessment 2014 - proposed submission document – Consultation response from CPRE Oxfordshire

1. CPRE objects to the core strategy on three grounds:

- First, in formulating the plan, the Council failed to implement its own Statement of Community Involvement (SCI);
- Secondly, it accepted blatant massaging of figures in calculating the LAA 2014; and
- Finally, it failed to follow the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and subsequent planning guidance in relation to location of mineral workings.

2. CPRE concern with minerals planning is summarised in the following statement of objectives:

- a) place conservation and enhancement of the terrestrial natural and historic environment and protection of the marine environment at the heart of minerals planning;
- b) reduce the need for extraction by managing the demand for minerals and improving the efficiency of their use, recognising that economic prosperity does not require increasing levels of minerals consumption;
- c) maximise the use of recycled and secondary aggregates; and
- d) promote public participation and improve the transparency of the process.

3. Our objections are to failures of the core strategy and aggregates assessment to satisfy these objectives.

Failure to comply with Oxfordshire Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

4. This failure cannot now be redeemed in relation to the current core strategy but is considered relevant to your inspection. The SCI¹ replaces one of 1996 and was adopted at the same Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 24 March 2015 at which the only other item on the agenda was the draft Minerals and Waste Plan Part 1. On previous occasions in the process of developing the core strategy, OCC consulted with an environmental group led by CPRE and involving seven parties², concerned with working of sand and gravel, both sharp and soft. The group was established in September 2010 and met the Cabinet member responsible for Environment. The group became, in County Council parlance, Local Environmental Campaign Groups. We were subsequently invited to comment on two studies of Local Aggregates Assessment commissioned by the Council; the first in February 2011, the second in May 2013.

¹ Oxfordshire County Council revised Statement of Community Involvement, adopted March 2015.

² AGGROW, BACHPORT, ENOUGH, Land not Sand, OUTRAGE, PAGE and CPRE.

5. The oral consultation on the latter, held in September 2013, resulted in officials abandoning the methodology used in calculating the LAA in the commissioned report by Atkins, and adopting the 10-year average for sharp sand and gravel.

6. It was therefore surprising in November 2014 to learn that Cabinet, and in due course Council, were to discuss a new LAA report by LU and Cuesta Consultants with no preliminary consultation with the local community group. This group had by this time morphed into OXAGE (Oxfordshire Against Gravel Extraction) which was aimed to concentrate on the LAA for sharp sand and gravel extraction.

7. The decision not to consult communities is counter to the SCI. This states, *inter alia*: 'We will consult communities on the development of plan document at the earliest possible stage to allow meaningful engagement in the process.' The role of local groups is more sharply identified in stating: 'Where appropriate we will go beyond the requirements of the Regulations. We will seek to involve all individuals, groups, organisations and bodies that we think have an interest in the minerals and waste development documents being prepared or who have expressed an interest in being involved or consulted.'

8. CPRE considers that the Council's neglect of its duty to consult renders this aspect of the Plan not legally compliant.

Massaging of figures in calculating the LAA 2014 ³

Re: Policy M2 : provision for working aggregate minerals.

9. A Local Aggregates Assessment is an annual assessment of the demand and supply of aggregates in a mineral planning authority's area ⁴.

10. Supplies of aggregates may be considered under the headings of recycled aggregates, secondary aggregates, marine aggregates, imports, and land won.

11. Planning Guidance ⁵, the core strategy ⁶ and the LAA ⁷ put recycled and secondary materials at the top of the list of sources of aggregates. It is accepted that there are limitations of data sources on these materials. However, in view of the increased use of such materials in recent years it is surprising that no effort is made to quantify prospective future contributions, a dimension specially called for in NPPF ⁸.

No connection is attempted to link the discussion of construction, demolition and excavation waste in the Submission Document at paragraphs 5.6, 5.9 and Table 4 ⁹, with the potential quantity of usable aggregate within that total. Similarly discussion of secondary materials is limited to dismissal of china clay sand as an insignificant source.

The attitude throughout is aspirational, with no evidence of Council initiatives for promoting increases in supply through, for example inter-MPA planning.

12. The absence of any estimate of the potential contribution of these alternatives to land-won aggregate is a serious deficiency.

13. Instead, the reader is led to consider that the long-term requires a major increase in the supply of land-won material, especially that of sharp sand and gravel. In the case of sharp

³ Including updates March 2015.

⁴ National Planning Guidance, Local Aggregates Assessment, revised March 2014.

⁵ Guidance ID 27-063-20140306, para 063.

⁶ Para 3.4 Minerals Plan objectives.

⁷ Paras 3.57 -3.59.

⁸ NPPF para 145.

⁹ Table 4 Forecasts of amounts of principal waste streams to be managed - Oxfordshire waste arisings (million tonnes).

