

# Central & Eastern Berkshire Authorities

## Hearing Position Statement

### **Main Matter 4 – Minerals other than aggregates**

Word count: 209

This Hearing Position Statement should be read in conjunction with the Schedule of Proposed Modifications (MD01).

**Issue:** Whether the Plan makes adequate provision for other minerals?

*4.1 Is Policy M6 and its supporting text positively prepared and are the circumstances justified that relate to 'appropriate locations' and the provision of there being no other suitable, sustainable alternative source of mineral available?*

There is currently no active chalk or clay extraction in Central and Eastern Berkshire. Policy M6 seeks to positively support proposals but under specific circumstances. The term 'appropriate locations' is clarified in Para. 6.119 and refers to the fact that proposals will need to comply with the relevant policies in the Plan. In this context, this would include Policy M6, as well as the Development Management policies which seek to minimise the impacts of development.

Policy M6 also seeks information to demonstrate that there is no sustainable alternative source of mineral available. This can be considered to be either that an alternative material could be used such as recycled or secondary aggregate or that the material is not being transported over unreasonable distances which could have traffic related impacts. This second point is clarified in 6.119 and 6.120. Taking account of alternatives such as substitutes or recycled and secondary materials, before considering the extraction of primary materials is supported by the National Planning Policy Framework (Para. 210 (b)).

It is recognised that the reference to alternatives is not addressed in the implementation text and therefore, proposed Modification (AM40) seeks to clarify this point.