

Central & Eastern Berkshire Authorities

Joint Minerals & Waste Plan

Safeguarding Threshold

October 2021



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Table of Contents

1. Safeguarding threshold.....	1
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Prepared by Hampshire Services

Hampshire County Council

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1. Safeguarding threshold

1.1 The Central & Eastern Berkshire Authorities have reviewed the 3-hectare (ha) threshold which was outlined in the Safeguarding Study and subsequently applied to the Submission Plan.

1.2 The following criteria was applied:

- 5 years of recent data – 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2020
- Data from each of the four Authorities: Bracknell Forest, Reading, Windsor & Maidenhead and Wokingham.
- Only new development applications (for the purpose of simplifying this process in the timeframe and avoiding duplication)
- Any portion of site within safeguarding layer, whether wholly in or just part of site.
- Applications are grouped in bands:
 - Greater than 1 ha – but less than 3ha,
 - Greater than 3ha – but less than 5 ha
 - Greater than 5ha – but less than 10ha
 - Greater than 10ha

1.3 Applying the criteria resulted in the following data:

	1 ha	3+ ha	5+ ha	10+ ha
Bracknell Forest	7	3	2	7
Reading	13	1	2	1
Windsor & Maidenhead	13	1	1	3
Wokingham	13	1	2	4
Total	46	6	7	15

1.4 The 3-hectare threshold was applied as it was confirmed by industry in a neighbouring authority (Hampshire) that this was a viable site size for prior extraction. As Hampshire contains similar minerals and has similar markets, this threshold was considered suitable for the Central and Eastern Berkshire Plan area, to avoid requesting Mineral Resource Assessments where viable prior extraction would be unlikely.

1.5 The data shows that a number of development proposals would require Mineral Resource Assessments to be prepared should the 3-hectare threshold be applied within the Plan area.