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WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Address: Hampshire Services c/o
Strategic Planning,
Hampshire County Council,
Elizabeth II Court West,
The Castle, Winchester,
SO23 8UD

Email: berks.consult@hants.gov.uk

Tel: 0370 779 5634

3 September 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities – Joint Minerals and Waste Plan Regulation 19 Proposed Submission Consultation

Bracknell Forest Council, Reading Borough Council, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Wokingham Borough Council (collectively referred to as the Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities) are working in partnership to produce a Joint Minerals and Waste Plan which will guide minerals and waste decision making in the Plan area.

The Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities are now publishing the Proposed Submission version of the plan and inviting representations to be made on it, under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)¹.

The emerging Joint Minerals and Waste Plan will replace the formerly adopted minerals and waste plans for the Berkshire area, providing policies based on up to date evidence for the current levels of provision for minerals and waste facilities in the Plan area. Importantly, the Plan aims to establish the future levels of provision required to meet national and regional policy targets and objectives. It will set out a new vision of how this will be achieved and provide details of strategic sites that will help deliver the vision.

Several information gathering consultations were undertaken between 2017 and 2020 which have helped inform the Plan.

The Central and Eastern Berkshire Authorities are therefore inviting representations on the 'soundness' (please see the accompanying FAQs document at www.hants.gov.uk/berksconsult for definitions on 'soundness') and legal compliance of the Proposed Submission document and its accompanying material. Responses to the Plan must refer to these tests otherwise they may not be considered by the Secretary of State.

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/2012/767/contents/made>

The Proposed Submission document, the Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) (SA/SEA) Environmental Report, Habitats Regulation Appropriate Assessment, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and other supporting documentation, along with a response (representations) form and a survey questionnaire are all available to view and download from the Joint Minerals & Waste Plan consultation website: www.hants.gov.uk/berksconsult Representations made on the Proposed Submission Plan, Sustainability Appraisal (SA) / Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) report and other relevant documentation will be compiled and submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent Planning Inspector.

Consultation on the Proposed Submission plan will run for six weeks, beginning on 3 September 2020 and ending 15 October 2020. All representations must be received by **5pm on Thursday 15 October 2020**. Late representations may not be accepted as duly made.

The preferred response method is via the dedicated consultation response form and survey questionnaire which can be found by visiting www.hants.gov.uk/berksconsult Responses will also be accepted via email by sending to berks.consult@hants.gov.uk or in writing to Central and Eastern Berkshire JMWP c/o Hampshire Services, Strategic Planning, Hampshire County Council, Elizabeth II Court West, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UD.

In order to comply with Government guidance and regulations during the current Covid-19 pandemic (or other public health emergency), it is not possible to consult on planning policy documents using usual methods. This is because of the requirements to minimise travel, social distancing and the closure of certain Council facilities.

Due to Covid-19, electronic techniques and communications will be employed. Documents will be available to view on the dedicated consultation website (www.hants.gov.uk/berksconsult). Please refer to the relevant Authority websites regarding availability of hard copies at libraries and/or council offices.

Yours faithfully,

Hampshire Services*



*Hampshire Services, part of Hampshire County Council, is working in collaboration with the Central & Eastern Berkshire Authorities to assist them in the preparation of the Joint Minerals & Waste Plan. Data sharing statements are outlined on the consultation Response Form.