Annex 2

## Assessment of Site Options – Stage 1b Assessment of Crushed Rock and Soft Sand Sites

## Summary of assessment outcomes

Site No.	Site Name	Conclusion from Stage 1b Assessment by Adams Hendry	OCC Comments
CR-07	Adjacent to Whitehill Quarry	The site lies within the Mineral Strategic Resource Area (Burford area south of A40) and has been nominated as an extension to Whitehill quarry. It has direct access onto the Oxfordshire Lorry Route Network (A40) and is likely to have limited impact on the local highway network.  The ecological impacts are likely to be low and there are no known archaeological constraints. Mineral extraction is likely to moderately affect landscape character, which is more sensitive given the proximity to the Cotswolds AONB.	The current permission on the existing quarry is that it should cease by 2042. The allocation of an extension to the site would not come into use until after 2031, and would therefore not increase the reserves available within the plan period.
		There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
CR-10	Burford Quarry SW Extension	The site lies partially within the Mineral Strategic Resource Area and is proposed	The current permission on the existing quarry is that it should cease

		as an extension to Burford Quarry, which has consent for mineral extraction until the end of 2035. It has access to the Oxfordshire lorry route network (A40). Biodiversity impacts are considered to be low and landscape and visual impacts moderate.	by 2035. The allocation of an extension to the site would not come into use until after 2031, and would therefore not increase the reserves available within the plan period.
		The adopted West Oxfordshire Local Plan allocates land approximately 500m to the south east of the site for residential development and therefore any potential extension to Burford quarry should take into account potential future residential amenity impacts so as not to compromise the implementation of this allocation.	
		There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
CR-13	Dewars Farm Quarry East Extension	The site is nominated as a proposed extension to Dewars Farm Quarry and lies within the Mineral Strategic Resource Area (North West Bicester). It has potential to access directly onto the Oxfordshire Lorry Route Network (B430) via the existing access to Dewars Farm Quarry. Any increase in HGV trips have the potential to	The current permission states that the extraction shall cease by the end of 2029. This would only give two years of working before the end of the plan period 2031.  Ecological impacts have the potential to be high

		effect nearby villages. Whilst not in an AQMA, nitrogen dioxide levels in Middleton Stoney are quite high and are being monitored by Cherwell District Council and the County Council with a view to exploring various transport measures to stop levels increasing. It is likely that a routing agreement to divert traffic away from Middleton Stoney would be required if the site was allocated.  Overall ecological impacts have the potential to be high, with the site in close proximity to a number of sensitive ecological receptors. Due to the landscape context of incinerator, landfill, quarry and M40 the impact of the development on landscape character and views is considered to be slight.  There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for	Cumulative impacts with the incinerator
		crushed rock over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
CR-15	Land off the B4100, Baynards Green	Whilst the site does lie within the Mineral Strategic Resource Area (North West Bicester), it is nominated as a new site on the eastern side of the M40. Policy M3 of the Core Strategy makes it clear that the	The site is within an SRA, but would be a new quarry rather than an extension.  Good access to the Lorry Network

		priority is for the extension of existing sites before working new sites.	Other impacts likely to be low.
		The site has good access to the Oxfordshire lorry route network; however mitigation may be required at Baynards Green roundabout.	
		The overall landscape and visual impact of the proposal is considered moderate as a new site, unconnected nature in the landscape, the impact on public views and the likelihood that there will be no restoration in the long term. Overall ecological impacts are likely to be low.	
		There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
CR-19	Dewars Farm Quarry South Extension	The site is nominated as a proposed extension to Dewars Farm Quarry and lies within the Mineral Strategic Resource Area (North West Bicester). It has potential to access directly onto the Oxfordshire Lorry Route Network (B430) via the existing access to Dewars Farm Quarry. Any increase in HGV trips have the potential to effect nearby villages. Whilst not in an	The current permission states that the extraction shall cease by the end of 2029. This would only give two years of working before the end of the plan period 2031.  Ecological impacts have the potential to be high

		AQMA, nitrogen dioxide levels in Middleton Stoney are quite high and are being monitored by Cherwell District Council and the County Council with a view to exploring various transport measures to stop levels increasing. It is likely that a routing agreement to divert traffic away from Middleton Stoney would be required if the site was allocated.  Overall ecological impacts have the potential to be high, with the site in close proximity to a number of sensitive ecological receptors. Due to the landscape context of incinerator, landfill, quarry and M40 the impact of the development on landscape character and views is considered to be limited.  There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	Cumulative impacts with the adjacent energy recovery facility.
SS-03 & CR-17	Hatford Quarry South Extension	The site lies within Mineral Strategic Resource Areas for soft sand and crushed rock and is within 1km of the A417 on the Oxfordshire Lorry Route.	An extension to the existing site which has permission to 2020, however that might have ceased before the extension area is permitted.

		The site is nominated as an extension to	Low Ecological impact
		Hatfield Quarry which has permission for the extraction of limestone and sand until 2020/21 with restoration to be completed by September 2021.	High landscape impact
		The ecological impacts of extraction are anticipated to be low, however the effect on landscape character is expected to be significant due to its size and close proximity to Hatford conservation area. There are a number of existing and	
		nominated mineral and waste sites within	
		3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking	
		into account the overall requirement for	
		crushed rock and soft sand over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
SS-04	Land at Pinewoods Road	The allocation of this site would be	Within the SRA, but not an extension
		contrary to Policy M4 of the adopted	to an existing quarry
		Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy which prioritises the extension of existing quarries (where environmentally acceptable) before working new sites. The site is in relatively close proximity to a number of heritage assets and residential properties, consists of best and most versatile agricultural land and is of moderate landscape sensitivity.	Site is in close proximity to heritage assets and residential properties.
		Unless there is an urgent need for soft sand reserves which cannot be met on an	

		alternative site in a more environmentally acceptable way this site should not be allocated in the Minerals and Waste Site Allocations Local Plan.	
SS-05	Land at Kingston Bagpuize	The site is proposed as a potential new quarry within the Mineral Strategic Resource Area (Corallian Ridge – Oxford to Faringdon).  The site would have a moderate landscape or visual impact however the future restoration of the site has potential to deliver long term landscape character benefits. With appropriate mitigation, biodiversity is unlikely to pose a significant constraint. However, the site is within an area of considerable archaeological interest and whilst it has good access to the Oxfordshire Lorry Route Network, there is severe capacity and congestion issues on the local highway network. Allocation of this site would therefore only be appropriate if it could not be demonstrated that there were other more suitable sites to meet the requirement for soft sand.	Within the SRA but a new quarry not an extension to an existing quarry.  Within an area of considerable archaeological interest.
SS-07 & CR-24	Home Farm, Shellingford	The site lies within Mineral Strategic Resource Areas for soft sand and crushed rock and is adjacent to the A417 on the Oxfordshire Lorry Route.	Within the SRA but a new quarry not an extension to an existing quarry.  Ecological impacts expected to be high.

		The site has been nominated as a	Moderate effect on landscape.
		potential new site. Core Strategy Policy	
		M4 makes it clear that the priority is for the extension of existing quarries rather than	
		new sites.	
		The ecological impacts of extraction are	
		anticipated to be high given the site's	
		proximity to sensitive ecological receptors.	
		The site is a large site in an area with a number of existing mineral workings and	
		therefore extraction is likely to have a	
		moderate effect on landscape character	
		and public views.	
		There are a number of evicting and	
		There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within	
		3km of the site and therefore cumulative	
		impacts will need to be considered taking	
		into account the overall requirement for	
		crushed rock and soft sand over the plan	
SS-08 &	Shellingford Quarry (Western	period set out in the Core Strategy.  The majority of the site lies within Mineral	This site has been subject of a
CR-16	Extension)	Strategic Resource Areas for soft sand	planning application on which there is
		and crushed rock. It lies adjacent to the	a resolution to grant planning
		Oxfordshire Lorry Route Network (A417)	permission subject to a legal
		and it is likely that the existing Shellingford	agreement to cover long term
		Quarry access onto the A417 Stanford	management of the site and
		Road would be used.	provision of a permissive footpath.
		The site is in close proximity to a number	The site would yield 1.8mt of
		of sensitive ecological receptors and the	limestone and 1mt of soft sand over

		expansion of Shellingford Quarry is expected to moderately affect the landscape character and views by introducing mineral extraction into this	a 22 year period to 2041. The average extraction rate would be 127,000tpa.
		rural landscape in close proximity to Shellingford conservation area.	Assuming the working started in 2020 future that would give approximately 11 years of supply
		Current planning application MW.0104/18 proposes mineral extraction and infilling	within the plan period.
		with imported inert materials within most of the area of the nominated site as a western extension to the existing Shellingford Quarry. The Council's Planning and Regulation Committee resolved to approve the application in July 2019 subject to legal agreements on long term aftercare and lorry routing.	11 x 82,000 = 0.902mt of limestone 11 x 45,000 = 0.495mt of soft sand
		There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within	
		3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking	
		into account the overall requirement for	
		crushed rock and soft sand over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
SS-12 & CR-12	Land at Chinham Farm (Chinham Hill)	The site lies within the Mineral Strategic Resource Area for crushed rock and soft	An extension to an existing quarry within the SRA.
		sand and is proposed as an extension to Bowling Green Farm Quarry. It has access to the Oxfordshire Lorry Route Network (A417) utilising the existing access to Bowling Green Farm quarry.	Moderate loss of ecology and landscape.

		Impacts on ecology are considered to be moderate particularly given the small size of the site. Development of the site is likely to cause a moderate impact on landscape character due to the loss of characteristic features.  Planning permission was granted for the extraction of sand as an extension to the Bowling Green Farm/Chinham Farm Quarry in 2011, however this was not implemented and the permission has now lapsed.  There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock and soft sand over the plan	Planning permission has already been granted in 2011, but has lapsed.
SS-15 & CR-11	Hatford Quarry North Extension	period set out in the Core Strategy.  The site lies within Mineral Strategic Resource Areas for soft sand and crushed rock and lies approximately 1.2km from	An extension to an existing quarry within the SRA.
		the A420 on the Oxfordshire Lorry Route Network	High ecological impacts.
		The site is nominated as an extension to Hatfield Quarry which has permission for the extraction of limestone and sand until	Moderate landscape impacts.

		2020/21 with restoration to be completed by September 2021.	
		The site is adjacent to several sensitive ecological receptors and therefore the potential ecological impacts of the proposals are likely to be high. The landscape and visual impact is considered to be moderate.	
		There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock and soft sand over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
SS-16 & CR-21	Hatford Quarry Stanford Extension	The site lies within Mineral Strategic Resource Areas for soft sand and for crushed rock and within 1km of the A417 Oxfordshire Lorry Route.	An extension to an existing quarry within the SRA.  Moderate ecological impacts.
		Allocation of the site for is likely to have an adverse impact on landscape character and on sensitive visual receptors. It also has the potential to affect the Stanford in the Vale and Hatford Conservation Areas.	High Landscape impacts.
		Overall the ecological impacts of the proposals are likely to be low to moderate. No significant impacts on any statutory site of nature conservation interest are	

		anticipated however the site is partly within a CTA.  There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock and soft sand over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
SS-18 & CR-22	Hatford Quarry West Extension	The site lies within Mineral Strategic Resource Areas for soft sand and for crushed rock and is approximately 3km from the A417 part of the Oxfordshire Lorry Route, via Sandy Lane  Allocation of the site is likely to have a minor effect on the local landscape character and views due to the site's location next to the existing quarry and the partially screened nature of the site  Overall ecological impacts have the potential to be high, with the site in close proximity to a number of sensitive ecological receptors.  There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for	An extension to an existing quarry within the SRA.  High ecological impacts.  Moderate landscape impacts.

		crushed rock and soft sand over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	
SS-19 & CR-23	Home Farm, Carswell	The site lies within Mineral Strategic Resource Areas for soft sand and with the exception of a strip along the eastern boundary, for crushed rock and has direct access on to the Oxfordshire Lorry Route (A420).	A new quarry within the SRA.  High ecological impacts.  Moderate landscape impacts.
		The landscape impact of mineral extraction is considered to be low when considered in isolation but the cumulative effects of other mineral workings in the vicinity could be much greater.	
		The site is within and adjacent to several sensitive ecological receptors and the impacts of mineral extraction are likely to be high.	
		There are a number of existing and nominated mineral and waste sites within 3km of the site and therefore cumulative impacts will need to be considered taking into account the overall requirement for crushed rock and soft sand over the plan period set out in the Core Strategy.	