



## Cumbria and the Lake District National Park

### Fifth Joint Annual Local Aggregates Assessment 2017 (incorporating figures for 2016)

1. The purpose of the annual Local Aggregates Assessment is for each mineral planning authority to assess the balance between the demand for and supply of aggregates. It should show whether there is a shortage or a surplus of supply. If there is a shortage, it should say how this is being addressed.
2. There are 16 operating crushed rock quarries in Cumbria; two of these are partly within and one is wholly within the Lake District National Park. There are 10 operating sand and gravel quarries; none of these are within the National Park.
3. Cumbria is self-sufficient in aggregates and also supplies other markets in the North West, especially Lancashire, as well as other regions, especially the North East. Just under a third of Cumbrian quarries supply national markets, including Wales and Scotland.
4. The national policy criteria are that a minimum 7-year landbank should be maintained for land-won sand and gravel and a 10-year one for crushed rock. These should be based on the rolling average of 10 years annual sales data, whilst 3-year average annual sales can be used to identify trends.
5. In Cumbria, excluding the Lake District National Park, permitted reserves of land-won **sand and gravel** for aggregate use were 7.77 Mt, 10-year annual average sales were 0.63 Mt, representing **a landbank of 12.33 years** that should last until early 2028.
6. For a third year, sales of sand and gravel in 2016 held their significant increase after 5 years of low sales. Time extensions for a number of sand and gravel quarries were granted during the previous calendar year 2015. Although the landbank currently exceeds the minimum requirements, additional resources are required before 2030, especially in the south and west of the county. This is recognised in the new Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan (adopted September 2017), through strategic policies and site allocations.

7. In Cumbria, including the Lake District National Park, permitted reserves of **crushed rock** at the end of 2016, were 130.00 million tonnes (Mt), 10-year average annual sales were 3.13 Mt, representing **a landbank of 41.53 years** which would last until mid-2057.
8. The reserves solely for **crushed limestone for aggregate** purposes was 84.26 Mt giving **a landbank of 38.83 years**, based on 10 year rolling average sales of 2.17 Mt which should last until late 2054.
9. The supply of crushed limestone for industrial purposes is not covered in the landbanks considered above, and should be kept under review. These resources are, however, safeguarded within the limestone Mineral Safeguarding Areas.
10. Landbanks within Cumbria for those aggregates that constitute **high and very high specification roadstones** have also been considered separately from those for crushed rock for general use. The permitted reserve for these skid resistant roadstones, which supply national and regional markets, was 16.74 Mt at the end of 2016 , with 10-year average sales of 0.57 Mt giving **a landbank of 29.37 years** which should last until early 2045.
11. Further resources for high and very high specification roadstones are advisable due to their regional and national significance, and this is addressed in the adopted Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan, through strategic policies and site allocations.
12. The reserves for **sandstone and igneous** (excluding high and very high specification roadstones) was 29 Mt giving **a landbank of 72.5 years**, based on 10 year rolling average sales of 0.4 Mt which should last until 2088.
13. National policy requires that landbanks should, as far as practical, be maintained from outside National Parks and other landscape designations. This may constrain the supplies of crushed rock that Cumbria can make to other parts of the country in the future.
14. More detail on the aggregates assessment than is contained in this 'headline' document, can be found in the 'Cumbria and Lake District National Park Joint Annual Local Aggregates Assessment 2017: Supporting Information', dated April 2017, available from: [http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/policy/minerals\\_waste/MWLP/LAA.asp](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/policy/minerals_waste/MWLP/LAA.asp) and also on the Lake District National Park website: <http://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/planning/planningpolicies/ldfresearchevidence>