Mineral Resource Information in Support of National, Regional and Local Planning

Source: Mineral Planning Authorities

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Additional resources of sand and gravel may be won from exploiting suitable bedrock deposits. Triassic sandstones of the Sherwood Sandstone Group are known near Manchester but are too thin to be considered economic. Wind-blown sands are generally too fine-grained and uniform size for aggregate use.

The Carboniferous sandstones of the Millstone Grit and Pennine Coal Measures of Greater Manchester have traditionally been extensively used as a source of building stone and today both disused and working quarries are a common feature of the landscape. The Carboniferous sandstones of these formations are weak and friable and only suitable for low-grade uses such as construction fill.

Sand and gravel resources occur in a variety of geological environments. In Greater Manchester these resources occur mainly within glaciofluvial deposits, a more accurate description of their origin. The sequence of these deposits is complex with mappable units extensively used as a source of building stone and today both disused and working quarries are a common feature of the landscape. The Carboniferous sandstones of the Millstone Grit and Pennine Coal Measures of Greater Manchester have traditionally been extensively used as a source of building stone and today both disused and working quarries are a common feature of the landscape. The Carboniferous sandstones of these formations are weak and friable and only suitable for low-grade uses such as construction fill.

Glaciofluvial sand and gravel

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