

**Matter 7B/ Government Office for the South East of
England (7447)**

Draft RSS for The South East of England -The South East Plan
Examination in Public - November 2006 to March 2007
Written Statement on behalf of HM Government - October 2006

7B.1 Is the proposed apportionment of secondary and recycled materials fair and appropriate (Policy M2)?

- B1.1 National policy, as expressed in the Consultation Paper on MPS1: *Planning and Minerals* (2004), is to promote the efficient use and recycling of suitable materials, thereby minimising the net requirement for new primary extraction. In addition, regional planning bodies and mineral planning authorities should encourage the use of acceptable substitute or recycled materials in place of primary minerals wherever practicable, and furthermore the recycling of construction, demolition, excavation and minerals waste.
- B1.2 The Panel that conducted the examination in public into the review of the minerals and waste policies in RPG9 recommended that the Regional Assembly should identify a methodology upon which to base a sub-regional apportionment of alternative materials with the aim of including the results in the South East Plan. The apportionment that is proposed as part of Policy M2 is the Regional Assembly's intended fulfilment of this recommendation.
- B1.3 Land Use Consultants were commissioned by the Regional Assembly to produce a methodology, and it was developed and refined in association with the South East mineral planning authorities. We are not in a position to comment on the merits of the apportionment that is proposed, but suggest that testing examines whether the most acceptable apportionment has been selected with regard to sustainability appraisal and national guidance.