

Quarrying the Dales: is it acceptable? 2

What is the demand? Can it be reduced?

It is estimated that the UK needs 260 million tonnes of aggregate per year. The Yorkshire Dales produces about 44 million tonnes per year.

The demand could be reduced if more old stone from demolition sites was recycled – but this is more expensive than using new stone.

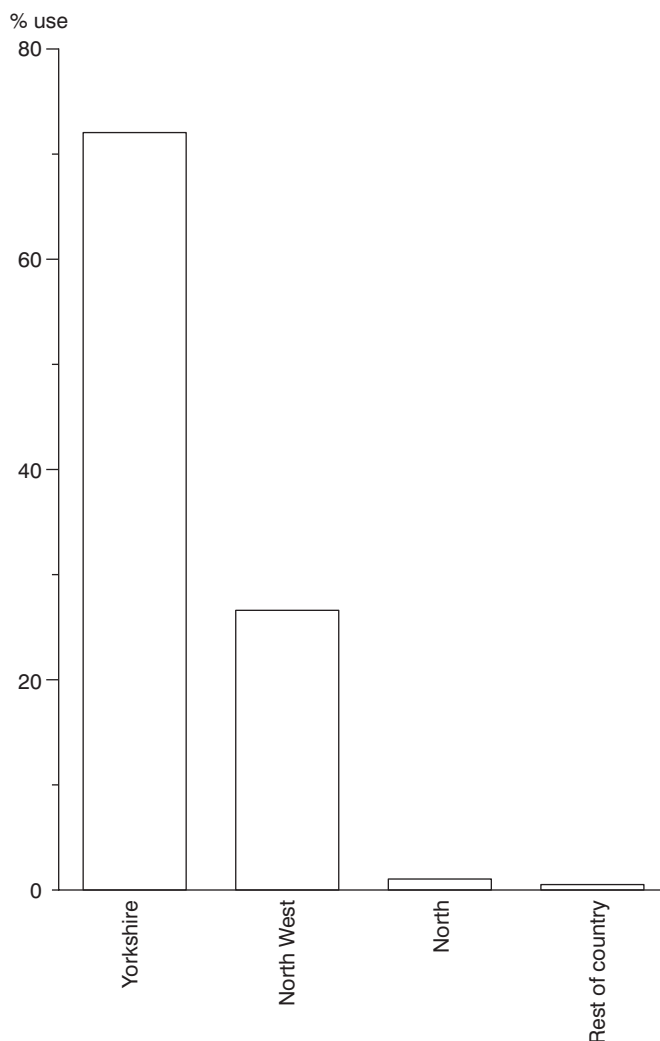
In 2002 the government introduced a tax on all new aggregates produced.

Key Words!

Aggregate

Crushed and sorted stone that is used for road surfaces, for example.

Areas where stone from the Yorkshire Dales is used 



1 Make two lists, to show:

- Benefits of quarrying in the Dales
- Problems of quarrying in the Dales.

You could subdivide your list to show problems and benefits for the local area and for the country as a whole.

2 Look at the pie chart showing uses of the quarried stone. Which of these *must* use limestone, and which could use other types of rock?

3 Explain how quarry managers can reduce the damage that their quarries do to the environment.

4 Suggest why the tax on new aggregates might increase the use of recycled aggregate, and reduce quarrying.

5 Should the government:

- a** close all quarries in the National Parks
- b** stop any new quarries being opened in National Parks
- c** bring in stricter rules about opening new quarries in the Parks
- d** do nothing, and let new quarries open if they will be profitable?

Explain your answer.

6 A large quarry in the Yorkshire Dales is due to close. Suggest how the land could be used for either leisure, or education, or both.

You could produce an ‘artist’s impression’ of what the new facility would look like.