

WARWICK LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION 2016

Matter 5

STATEMENT ON MATTER 5 BY THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND

Matter 5 – The economy and employment land

Issue

Whether the Local Plan has been positively prepared and whether it is justified, effective and consistent with national policy in relation to the economy and employment land.

Policies DS1, DS8, DS9, PC0, EC1, EC2 and EC3

Questions

1) What is the basis for the overall amount of employment land planned in Policy DS8? Does evidence support this and is it justified? Is it realistic and how does it compare with past take-up rates?

Earlier submissions have shown that the proposed allocation excessive, containing contingencies on buffers on unnecessary allocations. As detailed in earlier responses to the proposed plan, once these issues have been addressed the need is for less than 40 hectares of employment land rather than the claimed 66ha. Consequently, there is an excess of employment land available. Taken together with the proposed sub-regional employment site, the proposed allocations of employment land would lead to huge excesses and unnecessary removals from the Green Belt. Sites in the Green Belt such as at Thickthorn and Baginton (sub-regional employment site) are not justified.