



# The countryside charity Shropshire

**Examination of Shropshire Local Plan 2016-2038**

**Stage 2 Matters, Issues and Questions**

**Matter 4 - Employment Land Need, Requirement and  
Supply (policy SP2)**

**CPRE Shropshire Submission**

**Representor refs: A0410 and B-A127**

**20 September 2024**

1. Our Hearing Statement for Matter 4 follows the MIQs as set out in document ID40.

***Matter 4 – Employment Land Need, Requirement and Supply (policy SP2) – see MMs 001 -004  
Issue***

*Whether the Plan has been positively prepared and whether it is justified, effective and consistent with national planning policy in relation to the overall need, requirement and supply of employment land.*

***Questions***

2. We comment on selected questions only. We note, however, that although the Matter and Issue are framed to include the consideration of need, there is no specific question about need. As with Matter 3, for the reasons set out in our Hearing Statements for Matters 1 and 2 (and all our earlier submissions) we do not consider the High Growth Option of need for employment land is justified.

***Employment Land***

***Q1. Is the updated approach to the employment land requirement and supply set out in the Council's Updated Housing and Employment Topic Paper – April 2024 (GC45) of minimum of 320 ha of employment land over the plan period of 2016 to 2038, justified, positively prepared and consistent with national policy?***

3. The identified supply of employment land considerably exceeds the 320 Ha, or 290 Ha without the Black Country Contribution. In that case the use of Green Belt land is hard to justify and should be reviewed.

***Q2. What provision is made within the Plan to fulfil the identified unmet employment needs of the Black Country, and will the Plan's approach be effective in addressing this sustainably within the plan period, in accordance with national policy?***

4. We do not consider the need for employment provision for the Black Country is justified, as set out in our Matter 2 submission.