

# Matter 4: Employment Land Need Requirement and Supply

Representor A0137 / B-A119

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## SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION

### Stage 2 Hearing Statement

<b>Representor unique Part A Ref</b>	<b>A0137 / B-A119</b>
<b>Matter</b>	<b>4 – Employment Land Need Requirement and Supply</b>
<b>Relevant questions nos</b>	<b>1, 2</b>

1. 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?

- 1.1.1. BRE's representations to GC45 address this question directly. The pre-action protocol letter OD04 pre-dates GC45, but nonetheless identifies the same point of legal failure of the Council's approach in GC45. That is that under Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 s20(7C) the Inspector has the power to recommend modifications to make the plan sound. There is no provision for the Inspector to make recommendation to improve or change an otherwise sound plan or part of a plan, and there is no suggestion that the Inspectors have done so here.
- 1.1.2. The Examination Procedure Guide states that main modifications must relate directly to the reasons why the Inspector has found the Plan unsound or legally non-compliant. There is no such basis here which affords the Council the opportunity to make the changes it proposes to the housing requirement for Shropshire (OAN + Shropshire growth).
- 1.1.3. Please refer to BRE representations to GC45 and BRE Matter 1 Statement.

2. 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?

2.1.1. Please refer to BRE's representations to GC44, GC45 and GC46 and BRE's Matter 1 and Matter 2 Statements.

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