Sustainability Appraisal Note: Strategic Employment Land

This note provides clarification on how the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) for the Harborough Local Plan has addressed strategic employment land specifically in the appraisal of options.

The employment growth and distribution options that are detailed in Chapter 4 of the submitted SA Report [HDC20] do not distinguish between different types of employment land, including B8 (storage and distribution) uses. Options are identified for the level and spatial distribution of employment land generally and the appraisal of those options is based on the provision of employment land in principle.

Separate reasonable alternative options for the spatial distribution of Strategic Warehousing B8 employment land have not been identified because employment sites for these uses can only be provided in one part of the District, along the M1 corridor in the west and served by Junction 20, because of the specific locational characteristics of the sector. Therefore, alternative options for the distribution of strategic employment land are not reasonable in SA terms and have not been appraised.

Reasonable alternative site options for employment development have been appraised in the SA Report (Chapter 6), some of which lie within the M1 corridor and would be appropriate for B8 uses.

This text can be included in any future SA documentation for clarity.

LUC
11th November 2026