

SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION

Stage 1 Hearing Statement

Representor unique Part A Ref *	A0356
Matter	1 - Legal/Procedural Requirements
Relevant questions no's	2, 3, 4 and 17
Comments as attached.	

SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION Stage 1 Hearing Statement Matter 1 – Legal/Procedural Requirements

Reference: A0356

Date: 01/06/2022

Question 2

- 1.1 CEG consider that the environmental, social and economic effects of the Local Plan have been adequately and accurately assessed in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA).

Question 3

- 1.2 CEG consider that the Local Plan has been appropriately tested against the preferred options and all reasonable alternatives.

Question 4

- 1.3 GC4a Appendix 1 provides a summary of the Sustainability Appraisal responses to regulation 19 consultation and the Council's response to the main issue(s) raised.
- 1.4 The Council's SA criteria are based on the format set out in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. CEG therefore considers that the correct criteria have been used and no others should be included.
- 1.5 In respect of the concerns raised about the SA methodology there are two representations (A0024 and A0025) which make specific reference to proposed allocation SHR060. We would comment as follows to the issued raised:
- 1.6 We consider the methodology used by the Council to assess sites on a settlement-by-settlement basis, was appropriate and robust. Doing so enabled the SA to evaluate options and inform the site selection process.
- 1.7 The scoring criteria looked at 15 different criteria and correctly looked at designated wildlife sites only when assessing site sustainability. The referenced pool in A0024 and A0025 is undesignated and accordingly was correctly not considered in the SA which only assessed designated sites.

- 1.8 In respect of the overall site assessment, it is noted that the rating of SHR060 changed from Good at Regulation 18 stage to Fair at Regulation 19 stage. This corresponded with the assessment of sites SHR158 and SHR161 which collectively make up the allocation which were correctly assessed against all reasonable alternatives.
- 1.9 The landscape sensitivity assessment is the same for all three sites (SHR060, SHR158 and SHR161) and there is no justification to consider these sites separately. The process and methodology used by the Council in assessing landscape sensitivity is considered appropriate and robust.

Question 17

- 1.10 National Plan Policy requires strategic policies to look ahead over a minimum 15 year period from adoption. On the basis that the Local Plan review is likely to be adopted in 2023 a plan period up to 2038 is considered to be consistent with the requirement of national policy.