

Submission to the Mid Sussex Local Plan 2014-2031  
Site Allocations DPD examination  
Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions Discussion Note

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Appointed by the owners of land at Crabbet Park, Worth

[numbering follows document ID-02]

## **Matter 2 – Sustainability Appraisal**

2.1 It is not believed that the sustainability appraisal objectively analysed sites. However insofar as the SA is now being 'taken as read' by the Council, the SA supports the plan. The objection is that the SA appears to have been drawn up to support a predetermined plan objective rather than informing it in a transparent manner.

Whilst it may be understandable to adopt a Mid Sussex-centric approach, the global requirement must surely be to optimise the development strategies across the region; it is necessary to ask the question about the optimum locations for people to live and work having regard to the existing economic pull of the sub-regional hub represented by the Gatwick Diamond in general and the Crawley/Gatwick nucleus in particular. This is particularly with reference to that hub's transportation, employment, services and communications infrastructure as well as its cultural, recreational and social facilities.

2.2 the site at Crabbet Park was effectively dismissed in analysis in the most cursory of terms. This is borne out by the lack of engagement and several incorrect conclusions that were reached in respect of it as a line by line analysis will show. As a potentially major component in land available for future development, this looks like a serious oversight.

Put another way, if there were no municipal boundaries at all, where would a site like Crabbet Park rank? I'd suggest far higher than the early stage elimination the council has managed to achieve in this DPD.

2.3 No comment

14<sup>th</sup> May 2021