



THAKEHAM

District Plan Examination

# **Mid Sussex District Plan 2021-2039**

**Hearings Statement relating to: Matter 6 - The Selection of  
Sites for Allocation in The Plan**

Submitted by Thakeham Homes

## Matter 6: The selection of sites for allocation in the plan

### The rationality and effectiveness of the site selection process.

#### ***Issue a) The soundness of the process which led to the inclusion of site allocations in the plan and the exclusion of other sites, including the consideration of mitigation measures to address constraints***

- 6.1. This is largely a question for the Council.
- 6.2. Thakeham understands the Inspector's response dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026, making clear that this question relates to the site allocations made in the submission version of the emerging Local Plan.
- 6.3. Thakeham is in control of the Local Plan allocation DPSC1 – West of Burgess Hill. Thakeham has no issue with the site selection process undertaken by MSDC in respect of those sites included in the submission version of the emerging Local Plan. Thakeham has technical objections in respect of emerging allocation DPSC1 only (as addressed in the Regulation 19 representations and Matter 7 Statement). The principle of development in this location is strongly supported, and the site selection process in this particular case is robust.
- 6.4. As outlined in Thakeham's position on the SA, similar principles should be adopted to allocate additional land, to meet unmet needs around Crawley and the other principal settlements.
- 6.5. Thakeham do have reservations in relation to the SA's approach to development that seeks to support Crawley and its unmet need, as it is not addressed in the SA. The SA does identify that Option 2 (as per the growth options identified in the SA) will deliver a surplus of housing that would contribute towards meeting neighbouring unmet needs. However, it does not directly identify or draw any direct connection between the recognised unmet need of Crawley and how the surplus would help address that need. The SA does identify that the delivery of housing and economic benefits arrived at through the allocation of Crabbet Park would be a major positive, and its contribution to economic regeneration would be a minor positive. It is therefore suggested that the delivery of housing and strategic sites in the vicinity of Crawley would deliver housing and economic benefits. Thakeham firmly believe that additional housing delivery in the immediate vicinity of Crawley would be beneficial both in delivering the acknowledged unmet housing need of Crawley and supporting overall economic growth in Mid Sussex.

#### ***Issue b) The rationale behind the selection of the strategic and larger site allocations***

- 6.6. This is largely a question for the Council; Thakeham supports the strategic/ larger allocation DPSC1, which is consistent with a sound spatial strategy, locating development on the edge of the dominant settlement at Burgess Hill.

END

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