

**Supplementary Note to the South Staffordshire Local Plan Examination 2025 –
Action 4.7.**

This note has been produced by South Staffordshire Council to supplement the Examination of the South Staffordshire Local Plan. It directly responds to Action 4.7.

Action 4.7 – Council to screen whether changes to employment requirements require a further sustainability appraisal.

Lepus (who undertook the Sustainability Appraisal) have reviewed the proposed amendments to Policy DS4. These changes would be considered Main Modifications and therefore the revised policy would be subject to a further 6 week consultation alongside all other Main Modifications. However, the changes to the policy, particularly around the employment figures, whilst presented differently do not change South Staffordshire's employment land requirement of 203.4ha. The previous policy wording simply separated out the elements of West Midlands Interchange required to come forward to meet the needs of South Staffordshire (18.8ha), the Black Country (67ha) and Cannock (10ha), from the remaining employment supply required to come forward (i.e. supply not associated with WMI at 107.6ha). However, together all of these totalled 203.4ha. The revised policy wording takes a different approach, but ultimately presents the same 203.4ha figure as a 'global' employment requirement. This results in no material difference for what employment land will be delivered on the ground and to what has already been tested through the Sustainability Appraisal. It is therefore not considered that the amendments to Policy DS4 will change the SA scoring of the policy.