

City of York Local Plan Examination

Phase 4 Hearing Sessions

Hearing Statement on behalf of Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Matter 8: Economy and Retail

August 2022

Report title: York Local Plan Examination – Phase 4 Hearing Statement – Matter 8 (Economy & Retail)

Prepared by: Tim Collard and Craig Alsbury

Status: Final

Date: 25 August 2022

For and on behalf of Avison Young (UK) Limited

Question 8.1:

Are Policies EC1 to EC5 soundly based in terms of employment and York's economy?

- 1.1 The allocation of Towthorpe Lines for employment development within Policy EC1 is soundly based but the proposed wording is not sound and needs to be modified to make it sound.
- 1.2 DIO can confirm the site is available for disposal and DIO support the allocation of the site for employment uses. The disposal date remains as 2024 as previously promoted by DIO. We would refer you to the Disposal Database: House of Commons Report (updated June 2022)¹.

Issues with the suitable employment uses identified

- 1.3 DIO has the following concern about the wording of Policy EC1:
 - the use classes order has changed since the policy was written and it is appropriate to update the references. DIO's objective is to seek flexibility for alternative uses and the "Suitable Employment Uses" should include the following "*E(g), B2 and B8*". DIO thinks it appropriate to amend the policy in this way to comply with the latest use class order and also to diversity market attractiveness and demand.
- 1.4 Other than this point, DIO considers the proposed allocation to be sound.

¹ See row 74: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disposal-database-house-of-commons-report>

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