

North Herts District Council Local Plan EIP Statement

Statement from Graveley Parish Council

Matter 13 - Economic development (B Class Uses) (Policies SP3, ETC1 and ETC2)

Statement by Graveley Parish Council

13.4 As I understand it, the Plan provides some employment land to address a shortfall in Stevenage.

b) If so, what amount of employment land is aimed at meeting the shortfall in Stevenage? And

c) Are specific sites explicitly earmarked for this purpose?

Stevenage and NHDC have agreed an allocation of 11.5 hectares to support Stevenage employment needs from the BA10, 19.6 Hectare site, equating to some 1,818 jobs and 59% of the overall site. Allocation of this green belt site, primarily for Stevenage use, will result in a significant increase in both commuter and commercial traffic in the area particularly via the B197 further increasing traffic congestion and air pollution through / in Graveley.

NB (i) Stevenage's original request was for 14 hectares (Stevenage MOU 11a, 5.6)

(ii) In recent years some 9 hectares of industrial land on the Pin Green Industrial Estate in Stevenage has been allocated / developed for housing.

13.13 Overall, has the SA of employment sites and the selection process been appropriate and robust?

No. The justification for development of site BA10 is the level of housing growth anticipated in Baldock whereas as noted above in 13.4 (b) & (c) the majority of the site is to support Stevenage employment needs. Incorrect justification / rationale.

Graveley Parish Council, October 2017.