

**Examination of the North Essex Authorities  
Shared Strategic (Section 1) Local Plan**

**Andrewsfield New Settlement Consortium & Countryside Properties**

**Matter 8: Sustainability Appraisal**

**Question 12: Does the Additional Sustainability Appraisal (ASA) give adequate and appropriate considerations to:**

- (a) effects of overflying aircraft to and from Stansted airport ?**
- (b) impacts on operations at Andrewsfield airfield ?**
- (c) impacts on heritage assets ?**
- (d) impacts on water quality ?**
- (e) impacts on air quality ?**

**Answer 12:**

- (b)** Yes, the Development Vision and Master Plan submitted by Andrewsfield New Settlement Consortium (ANSC) and Countryside Properties (CP) in September 2019 towards the further technical evidence consultation excludes development upon or impacting on Andrewsfield airfield. Where the WBGC development proceeds in this way, by excluding the Andrewsfield airfield, this would be in accordance with a previous preferred Master Plan option as considered by AECOM on behalf of the NEAs (page 12, EB/088). It is understood that BDC and UDC will determine the proposed development land parcels through the joint BDC and UDC WBGC Development Plan Document.
- (c)** Yes, the Development Vision and Master Plan submitted by ANSC and CP in September 2019 towards the further technical evidence consultation excludes development within approximately 1km distance of heritage assets at Great Saling, including Saling Hall and the historic grounds to Saling Hall.

**Question 13: Does the ASA give clear and justified reasons (including in the Main Report Conclusion and in Appendix 8) for selecting the preferred spatial strategy option and for rejecting the alternatives ?**

**Answer 13:**

The ASA provides clear and justified reasons for selecting the preferred spatial strategy option and for rejecting the alternatives. It is clear that, having considered alternatives, the ASA confirms there are no significant or over-riding reasons that the alternatives should be identified in the Section 1 Plan as more sustainable alternatives to the proposed Garden Communities. The WBGC clearly represents a sustainable location for a new community within easy commuting distance of Braintree, Stansted and Great Dunmow. The NEAs section 1 Local Plan evidence base, as well as the site-specific evidence base submitted by ANSC and Countryside Properties towards the BDC and UDC Local Plans confirms that there are no significant environmental impacts that cannot be suitably mitigated through detailed planning via a Development Plan Document and planning application.

Word Count (Answers ): 270

December 2019