

Hearing Statement – Matter F: Tamworth Borough Council

Robert Mitchell

exploratory work on this been carried out and if so what are the future proposals? What impacts will this have on Tamworth? Have these impacts been considered in allocating the sites?

There is no dedicated local service between Birmingham and Tamworth and the overcrowding on through services is a disincentive to travel by train. A reduction in journey time is therefore not desired as it would not necessarily provide any benefit to the existing situation. However, more regular services and more passenger capacity are needed in order to improve rail links between Birmingham and Tamworth. We would wish for these aspirations to be taken into account in any work carried out with the rail companies in improving the rail links in the area.

The Sustainability Appraisal identifies that the proposal to provide 30,000 houses of the recognised need for Birmingham within surrounding authorities involves a number of uncertainties due to an absence of detail which, when produced, could provide conclusions that could either support or involve major modification of the aspirations of the BDP. We would be concerned about how any changes could impact on Tamworth (taking into account that Tamworth is also unable to meet its own needs) and also ensure that surrounding authorities linked with Birmingham and Tamworth would work with both authorities to meet both deficits.

Tamworth Borough Council is unable to meet projected future housing and employment needs. There is concern that the GBSLEP spatial framework timescales are slipping and as such a