

Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan Examination

Session 8 – Allocations Leek

1. Identification of Sites

Regarding the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) I would query the assessment of the suitability of three sites – LE045, LE076 and LE091- each being part of the former Fowlchurch landfill site. These could provide a total of 250 houses.

Two of the three assessments make the statement that ‘the area is now considered to be greenfield at the current stage of its afterlife’. **How can this be correct when it has been a landfill site?** Surely the designation should be as a brownfield site which would make it higher up on the scale for redevelopment!

This whole area could be redeveloped to include housing and a new school.

Following my suggestion that Fowlchurch should be considered for a large scale development, the reply in the ‘Site Omissions’ document states that it is a ‘site of Biological Importance’ and therefore subject to Policy NE1. This policy states that development will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that there are no appropriate alternative sites available.

I do not believe there are any suitable alternative sites on the eastern side of Leek because, as we are all aware, there are significant issues over the suitability of ‘The Mount’ for a major housing development.

J R Pigott