

Site Reference H(26) Depot, Harefield Road, Rickmansworth

Following the Hearing Sessions the Inspector sought clarification as to the history and future of the Harefield Road Depot.

The Council's response is as follows:

At the hearing session the Council explained their intention to relocate the current operations from this site to another location (either to another Depot as part of its consolidation of services or to a new site yet to be identified) and develop the site for housing. This was the reason for the phasing of the site to later in the Plan period (2016 – 2020).

The Council's intentions for the relocation of the operations at the Depot are longstanding. The Depot was identified as a housing site in the Local Plan 1996-2011 and a planning brief for the redevelopment of the site was also prepared. (**SD14** pages 85, 88 & 89)

The Depot was considered for allocation as a housing site by the Local Plan Member Working Group (previously known as the Local Development Framework Member Working Group) in 2008, 2010 and 2012 and approved as a housing site by the Council's Executive Committee. (**SD42** page 52)

In addition the site was consulted on as a housing site with an indicative capacity of 25 dwellings at the Core Strategy Preferred Options, Core Strategy Further Preferred Options and the Site Allocations Preferred Options and finally endorsed by Full Council when the document was approved for submission. (**SD42**)

The Council's intention is to relocate its current operations from the site in order for it to be developed for housing during the latter half of the plan period.