

Flintshire County Council Local Development Plan

Matter 6 Economy and Employment

15 April 2021

Matter 6: Economy and Employment and Enterprise (Inc. Economic Development, Enterprise and Employment; Employment Land Provision)

Key Issue:

Is the economic strategy coherent and based on a clear and robust preparation process? Will it address the Key Issues and Strategic Objectives effectively and efficiently? Are the strategy and strategic policies realistic and appropriate in the light of relevant alternatives and are they based on robust and credible evidence?

Yes. The plans strategy to promote economic growth 8mn re W* n BT /F2 4C q ()9()-5((smt)8(t

b) In terms of the economy, what are Flintshire’s special characteristics? How will they be harnessed *‘to benefit not only North East Wales but the wider geography, east and west’*, as advised in the Wales Spatial Plan .

The plan identifies that the Council is a key partner in the Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA), which is born of a shared economic, social and environmental interest across West Cheshire, Wirral and North East Wales. The area is recognised as a single economic sub-region and the recently published Mersey Dee Growth Prospectus identified the Strategic Sites allocated in the plan at Northern Gateway and Warren Hall as strategic locations with the potential to harness significant growth.

Flintshire is also a member of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB), whose vision for the economy up to 2035 is, amongst other things, to create over 120,000 new job opportunities. As part of the Growth Deal bid, funding was sought to realise the long-term vision with key strategic employment projects identified at Northern Gateway and Warren Hall in Flintshire and to aid advanced manufacturing.

d) What is the status of the Deeside Enterprise Zone? Is it clear which LDP policies will apply to this area and how proposals will be determined? Should it be identified on the Proposals Map?

Deeside Enterprise Zone has been designated by the Welsh Government due to its highly skilled and contemporary manufacturing across a range of sectors. The Enterprise Zone supports the economic focus of the plan at Deeside and must be shown on the Proposals Map, with clarity in plan policies on the designation and the allocations within it, including Northern Gateway. This approach is set out in the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3) and supported by Planning Policy Wales.

e) How will the LDP maintain **and enhance the County's tourism, culture and leisure offer?**

This is for the authority to respond.

f) Is the assessment of comparison retail need sufficiently robust to inform the **Plan's approach to retail allocations?**

This is for the authority to