

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF THE CHESHIRE EAST LOCAL PLAN SITE  
ALLOCATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES DOCUMENT SEPTEMBER 2020**

**HEARING POSITION STATEMENT PREPARED BY AXIS PED LIMITED ON  
BEHALF OF EDF ENERGY**

**MATTER 12**

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**Matters, Issues and Questions for the Examination**

**Matter 12 – Implementation & Monitoring**

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1. AXIS PED Ltd (Axis) has been instructed by EDF Energy (EDF) to prepare and submit Hearing Position Statement(s) to the Examination of the Cheshire East Local Plan Site Allocations and Development Policies Document (September 2020). This Statement should be read in conjunction with the previous representations made on behalf of EDF in September 2019 and December 2020. In accordance with the Inspectors Examination Guidance Notes, this Hearing Position Statement only deals with the relevant question in the Inspectors Matters, Issues and Questions for the Examination (MIQs) relevant to our original representations. Accordingly, it does not provide new responses or fresh evidence, rather seeks to provide our view on the matters raised by the Inspector.

***176. Is the framework for the implementation and monitoring of the LPS and SADPD appropriate and robust? Is it necessary for soundness or legal compliance for the monitoring framework to be included in the SADPD rather than in a separate document?***

2. The Local Plan Monitoring Framework 2020 is Core Document ED54 which replaces the monitoring framework contained in Table 16.1 of the LPS. The development plan is at the heart of the planning system with a requirement in law that planning decisions are taken in line with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. It is essential that plans are in place and kept up to date. Whilst the Annual Monitoring Reports do not form part of the Local Plan, rather a system of monitoring of the performance of it, the measures by which the plan is monitored (The Monitoring Framework) is there to ensure appropriate delivery of the Plan and

forms a critical part of it. In order to ensure that it is effective and deliverable over the period of the plan (soundness test) it should form part of the plan and adopted within it.

3. Paragraph 3.9 of the Monitoring Framework states that, where it would appear through monitoring that targets are not being met, it may be necessary to review the policies to see if they need to be amended, consider alternatives, or take appropriate action to remedy the cause of under-performance. Paragraph 5 identifies the activities that could trigger the need for an update to the Monitoring Framework, but what remains unclear within the Framework, is what the respective triggers are that would instigate a review of policies (the 'targets' are not triggers, but rather are open ended statements). The Framework would need to be amended to make it clear to all stakeholders how and when a review of policies is triggered.