

## **Bradford Local Plan**

### **Core Strategy Examination**

#### **Matter 5: Economy and Jobs**

#### **Further Statement on Target Number of Jobs in Policy EC2**

**Date: Thursday 12th March 2015**

**Venue: Victoria Hall, Saltaire**

**1.1** During day 6 of the Examination in Public into Bradford's Publication Draft Core Strategy, in relation to Policy EC2, there was some discussion into the proposed jobs numbers in the opening statement of the Policy. The Policy currently states that the Council will support the delivery of at least 2897 new jobs annually in the District through a series of employment land allocations and regeneration initiatives. Participants at the Examination pointed out that this figure did not align with the figure used by the council in its calculations relating to housing requirement under Policy HO1 which was 1600 new jobs.

**1.2** The jobs delivery figure of 2897 in Policy EC2 comprises the increase in the working age population anticipated to be in jobs together with those projected to be on job seekers allowance. However, this is a theoretical and aspirational figure as it assumes a goal of full employment which, in economic terms, is considered unachievable. The figure of 2897 jobs is more an illustration of social need than an estimate of projected annual jobs growth over the plan period as calculated by the Regional Econometric Model (REM).

**1.3** It is important to stress that the Plan itself cannot actually provide these new jobs but can play a key role in facilitating growth via the provision of land and can also help create the conditions to foster economic growth and ultimately jobs growth. The economy policies therefore set out the key priorities and areas for action in support of economic development.

**1.4** For reasons of clarity and to align with the jobs figure used to determine local housing need, the Council propose a minor change to the introductory sentence of Policy EC2 to read:

"The Council will support the delivery of at least ~~2897~~ 1600 new jobs annually in the District in the period to 2030 through:"

**1.5** The Council also proposes an addition to the lower case text to clarify the context of the 1600 jobs. Initially, this incorporates a minor change to the 6<sup>th</sup> sentence in paragraph 5.1.14 at line 9:

Whilst the current economic trend indicates a growth of approximately ~~4352~~ 1600 jobs per annum (excluding retail and wholesale-REM ~~March~~ June 2014), the ~~theoretical~~ actual need is potentially much greater

The final sentence in Paragraph 5.1.14 is proposed to be deleted:

~~'Since the number of claimants obtaining Job Seekers Allowance is estimated to reach 21,464 by 2030 and in addition, the growth in the working age population in full employment will increase by 27,800, there is a requirement for an average of a further 2897 new jobs annually to provide for this demand.'~~