

## Examination Statement

### Matter 3

## Horsham District Local Plan 2023-2040

*Prepared For*

**Fairfax Acquisitions Limited**

**Representor numbers:**

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## CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>MATTER 3- CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER</b>	<b>2</b>
	Matter 3, issue 2 – Whether the approach to water neutrality and flooding is justified, effective, consistent with national policy and positively prepared?	2



## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This statement has been prepared on behalf of Fairfax Acquisitions Limited, who have land interests at Newhouse Farm, Horsham, land to the north of Church Farm Walk, Upper Beeding, and Storrington (allocation HA18 ST01).
- 1.2 These representations provide a response to the matters and questions raised by the Inspector and to that extent do not focus on sites not included in the plan, that could otherwise be known as omission sites.
- 1.3 This response focuses on the questions asked in light of the soundness requirements set out in paragraph 35 of the NPPF (September 2023) that requires the plan to be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.



## 2 MATTER 3- CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER

### **MATTER 3, ISSUE 2 – WHETHER THE APPROACH TO WATER NEUTRALITY AND FLOODING IS JUSTIFIED, EFFECTIVE, CONSISTENT WITH NATIONAL POLICY AND POSITIVELY PREPARED?**

#### **Is Strategic Policy 9: Water Neutrality Sound?**

- 2.1 Strategic policy 9 provides mechanisms for any sites to be brought forward in the case where water neutrality is required, and where water neutrality is not required, should issues with water abstraction in the Sussex North Water Resource Zone be resolved.
- 2.2 If water neutrality needs to be achieved, then this is likely to have significant cost implications for development. We note viability work includes the figure of £2,000 but it is not clear if this is for both offsetting and water demand management.
- 2.3 The Council will need to provide the Examination with an update on the Sussex North Offsetting Water Scheme (SNOWs) and Southern Water's Water Resource Management Plan which will be critical to the requirement for water neutrality.
- 2.4 We have made comments in regard to Water Neutrality throughout this response, specifically in our statement on matter 8, and the position with this policy is relevant to those comments.