

# Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)

## Development of Suitability Matrix Local Policy Forum 1 May 2008 Workshop 2

### ***Comments***

The group worked through the site suitability matrices for the two examples and made a number of observations and comments.

The group felt that the Stage A of the matrix was a good way of sifting totally unsuitable sites out from further consideration, and generally were happy with the method, categories and process of Stage B. There were occasions when conditions 'on the ground' could not be reflected in the traffic light choice system, but overall it was considered that the suitability matrix would provide a good initial view of a site's possible suitability, as a precursor to more detailed and investigative site visits and information gathering exercises.

### ***Improvements to Matrix (including additional factors to be considered)***

The group made a couple of suggestions which may help to improve the site suitability matrix:

- A set of instructions would be helpful for the person / people who intend to complete the matrices, to ensure a consistent approach.
- There should be a little more consideration of the green, orange and red categories at present the system is perhaps a little crude and may mask subtleties.
- Employment and healthcare and is not currently covered in the categories, and perhaps should be included. There is also a lack of emphasis on community leisure facilities.
- Finally, there needs to be some joined-up thinking in terms of cumulative impacts between categories