

## **SGbus 1: Development of employment land**

**We will approve new employment uses, subject to other policies, on land allocated or identified on the proposals maps, or most recently used for this purpose.**

### **Reasoned Justification**

The aim of this policy is to ensure allocated employment sites, shown on the settlement proposals maps, are developed for suitable employment purposes. A separate statement of supplementary guidance (“SG Safeguarding 5: Safeguarding employment land”) protects these and existing sites from non-employment development. Removal of employment land allocations, or proposals for the comprehensive redevelopment of land currently used for business to another use should only be undertaken following due process as part of a review of the Development Plan.

In accordance with the Structure Plan, the Local Plan maintains a supply of land for industrial, business, and other employment uses, normally Classes 4, 5 and 6 of the Use Classes Order, and other employment uses where appropriate. This is one of the key factors in sustaining a vibrant, effective and sustainable economy for Aberdeenshire. The Action Programme will identify the means by which this established land supply will be made effective so as to meet the Structure Plan targets for the marketable land supply.

For clarification this policy does not apply to farmland, shop, hotel or retail office developments, even though they may employ people. It applies to land that was last, or is currently, used for business purposes.

Integrating new employment generation with supporting infrastructure and housing development is an important means of achieving sustainable communities. For this reason provision of marketable employment land will be a requirement for any development that seeks to create a new neighbourhood. These sites are specifically identified within the proposals maps.