

Brentwood Borough Council
Response to Rule 17 Letter (30 June 2026)

The Rule 17 letter followed the issue specific hearings (ISH3 and ISH4) and in respect of Local Authorities asked:

2. Socio-economic matters deferred from issue specific hearing 4

Employment and Skills Plan:

*a) The ExA asks **all local authorities** for their comments on the outline ESP [REP5 215], including whether they consider the applicant has adequately addressed the matter of supply chains within the document bearing in mind the number of other Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects consented in the vicinity of the proposed development. If not, do they suggest any measures the applicant could consider, if any, to address any concerns raised.*

*b) Views are sought from the applicant, as well as **all local authorities**, as to whether approval of the submitted document should be secured within the wording of the new requirement (requirement 15) in schedule 3 of the draft DCO [REP5 060] relating to the ESP.*

In respect of part (a), Brentwood Borough Council (BBC) defers to Essex County Council (ECC), which has been leading on employment, skills and supply chain matters on behalf of the Essex authorities. BBC has engaged with ECC throughout the examination on this matter and supports ECC taking the lead in responding to the ExA's questions.

In respect of part (b), BBC also defers to ECC's detailed response, which it has reviewed and concurs with, including its support for the position that any Employment and Skills Plan secured through the DCO should be subject to approval by the relevant County Council or Unitary Authority, as the authority with responsibility for strategic skills and employment functions.