

5.3 Employment Growth Options

Main Employment Locations

The current Local Plan Core Strategy⁵² identifies the main locations for manufacturing, distribution and warehousing uses (B-class uses). In the light of the most recent work on the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and the Sheffield and Rotherham Joint Employment Land Review (ELR), we need to establish whether these are still appropriate. Table 5.3 of the ELR suggests that the strategic importance of Chapeltown/Ecclesfield, Stocksbridge/ Deepcar, Sheaf Valley, Blackburn Valley and Orgreave are limited in terms of existing floorspace. This would leave us with the City Centre, the Upper Don Valley, the Lower Don Valley and the Outer South East⁵³. Note, however, that there is a significant supply of employment land proposed at Smithywood in the Chapeltown/Ecclesfield area that would be required to help meet the city's overall needs. Also, Chapeltown/Ecclesfield, Stocksbridge/ Deepcar, Sheaf Valley, Blackburn Valley and Orgreave could still have a role to provide employment opportunities close to communities and potentially reducing the need to travel long distances.

⁵² See [Core Strategy policy CS5](#)

⁵³ Note that this area is referred to as Mosborough/Woodhouse in Core Strategy policies CS5 and CS13, and in the Sheffield and Rotherham Joint Employment Land Review

Consultation questions

Q12: Should the Plan identify only the City Centre, the Upper Don Valley, the Lower Don Valley and the Outer South East as the main locations for new offices and manufacturing, distribution and warehousing?

If not, please provide reasons for your answer

Q13: Should the Plan acknowledge the Strategic importance of Chapeltown/Ecclesfield, Stocksbridge/Deepcar, Sheaf Valley, Blackburn Valley, Holbrook and Orgreave for B-class uses in terms of providing some employment opportunities close to new homes?

If not, please provide reasons for your answer

Advanced Manufacturing

The Employment Land Review has highlighted that the presence of two universities in Sheffield, the Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP), and a number of other established higher educational institutions and Research and Development (R&D) facilities, is key to attracting advanced manufacturing and engineering



firms, alongside the critical mass of firms already present and their established track record. The AMP provides a dedicated advanced manufacturing technology park where established industries cluster, with strong links to Sheffield's universities and on-site research centres which will help to feed further growth in this sector. Advanced manufacturing also forms a key sector in both Sheffield's Economic Strategy and Rotherham's Growth Strategy, and is a policy priority for future development with higher projected job growth anticipated in this sector as a result.

Overall, therefore, the growth potential of advanced manufacturing and engineering sectors in Sheffield is considered to be strong. In terms of geographic distribution, it is anticipated that the area around the AMP and neighbouring Sheffield Business Park in the Lower Don Valley straddling the Sheffield and Rotherham boundary – currently referred to as the Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation District (AMID)⁵⁴ – will remain a key focus of future advanced manufacturing activity, particularly for the expansion of established businesses.

Rotherham MBC has an adopted Core Strategy policy CS9⁵⁵ and is proposing a development management policy SP19⁵⁶ both of which encourage advanced

⁵⁴ See [Sheffield Innovation District Commission](#)

⁵⁵ See [Rotherham Adopted Core Strategy, Policy CS9](#)

⁵⁶ See [Rotherham Sites and Policies \(Publication Version 2015\), Policy SP19](#)

manufacturing in the Waverley area. The Sheffield Plan could include a policy or policies that mirror these, to ensure a consistent approach to the wider Sheffield Business Park/AMP area.

An option arising from these observations is that Sheffield should ensure there is sufficient land and sites of suitable quality available in and around the Sheffield Business Park/AMP area to meet the needs of the advanced manufacturing and associated research sectors.

Consultation questions

Q14: Should the Plan focus advanced manufacturing development in and around the area around the Sheffield Business Park and Advanced Manufacturing Park?

Q15: Should this require the identification of land not currently designated for business and industrial use?

Office Development

The ELR identified the financial and professional services sector in Sheffield as being of importance (accounting for 33,000 jobs) and having significant growth potential. The majority of these businesses are

