Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Neighbourhoods and Regeneration – 12 December 2023

Written question from Philip Redpath to the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Neighbourhoods and Regeneration

Policy EV11 (p46) relates to landscape. Paragraph 4.90 talks of West Wight and East Wight Landscape Character Assessments. East Wight is not part of the designated "former" AONB and as such is heavily targeted for development.

What are the characteristics of the East Wight Landscape Character Assessment and how are they impacted by the large-scale development allocations?

Response

Officer response:

The characteristics of the East Wight Landscape Character Assessment are set out within the document that can be viewed <u>here</u>. There are a total of 12 different landscape character categories highlighted across different parts of the island that falls under the scope of this document, with 46 separate character areas.

Large scale development allocations coming forward within the area covered by the East Wight Landscape Character Assessment would be required to identify the landscape character types and areas they are within or adjacent to and then demonstrate the level of harm, or otherwise, that is caused to these landscape character types by the scale, design and location of the development.

At planning application stage, the LPA would then consider whether that harm, or otherwise, is sufficient to justify a reason for refusal or as a reason to support granting planning permission (this is a process that already happens as the character assessments are used in the decision making process on current planning applications).