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2.22 Is the proposed provision of land for new employment development ‘significantly above’ the baseline employment land requirement justified and is it consistent with national policy?

– Employment land

The Future of Felixstowe and indeed the entire Eastern Region is critically dependent on the continued success of the Port of Felixstowe, and there have been many statements from national government recognising the importance of the Port to the UK as a whole. This implies the availability of land specifically suited to the needs of the logistics and haulage industries on which the Port depends. The baseline calculation for employment land is we understand based on national statistics of land requirements related to numbers of jobs. The logistics industry has a fundamentally different ratio between those elements. It is therefore unsurprising that the baseline land use requirement is clearly not compatible with the continued development of the Port and its associated partner industries. FTC believes that it is indeed critical that the Local Plan does continue to address this issue and is therefore sound in this respect.