

## Types of Employment Premises

- 5.21 In order to meet the diverse need for employment across South Oxfordshire the policy below requires a range of premises within any proposals for employment development.

### Policy EMP2: Range, Size and Mix of Employment Premises

- 1. Proposals for employment use will provide a range of sizes and types of premises, including flexible business space to meet current and future requirements. The Council will support proposals for premises suitable for small and medium sized businesses, including start-up/ incubator businesses (up to 150sqm) and grow-on space (up to 500sqm). Proposals for employment uses will be considered against this criteria and the overall employment distribution strategy at EMP1.**

This policy contributes towards achieving objectives 1, 2, 3 & 6.

- 5.22 South Oxfordshire District Council, in partnership with the Vale of White Horse District Council, commissioned consultants Lichfields to prepare a Small to Medium Sized Enterprises (SME) Business and Innovation Strategy (2017). The strategy highlights the importance of SMEs in South Oxfordshire and the difficulties these firms are experiencing in finding suitable premises.

- 5.23 To promote a balanced local economy, the Plan needs to ensure that a range of size and types of premises is available. The Council will seek to widen the variety of premises to include more modern and flexible business space. Enough space is needed for small and medium sized businesses, including start-up/incubator businesses (up to 150sqm) and grow-on space (up to 500sqm), and opportunities to provide this will be sought. Whether units are suitable for start-up/incubator businesses will depend partly on management arrangements and lease terms that are beyond our control; however the Council will do all it can to assist in this regard.