

Following the gateway assessment, the following changes will be made to EMA's Step 1(B) document, to address the CAA's mandatory feedback:

1. We note that the CAA does not object to the wording of the Design Principles (DPs) but is concerned that the inclusion of a mandatory status could '*...prevent the creation of potentially viable options during the next stage of the process*'. Whilst EMA does not believe that this would occur, in order to address the CAA's concern, the designation of 'mandatory' will be removed from each of the three mandatory DPs (DP(S), DP(P) and DP(C)). There are no proposed changes to the wording of the DPs. It is felt the wording of the DPs will in itself ensure the appropriate level of priority/weight is given to them when creating options, and ultimately the priority/weight applied will be for the decision-maker.

In the case of DP(C), the wording refers to relevant Government policy (linked [here](#)) and is in consistent with similar DPs adopted by other change sponsors in the UK.

2. In the development of its DPs, EMA has carefully considered all stakeholder feedback and a description of this is contained within Section 5 of the Step 1(B) report. In recognition of the feedback received from the CAA, a review of the relevant parts of the submission is being undertaken to identify and amend instances where additional clarity can be provided. This will result in stakeholder feedback being referred to and a clear explanation of why stakeholder feedback has been considered but not incorporated in the final proposed DPs.

The CAA's recommendations and points for consideration have also been noted and will be actioned.

The amendments set out above, which respond to the CAA's mandatory feedback will be completed as soon as practicable. This will be no later than Friday 10th January.