

GO-East



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE EAST OF ENGLAND

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14 September 2007

Dear Mark

DIRECTION UNDER PARAGRAPH 1(3) OF SCHEDULE 8 TO THE PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004 POLICIES CONTAINED IN HERTSMERE LOCAL PLAN (ADOPTED 2003)

I am writing with reference to your application of 29 March 2007 applying for a direction under paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in respect of policies in Hertsmere Local Development Framework (First Revision, October 2006).

The Secretary of State's Direction (Schedule 1) is attached. Those policies not listed in the Direction will expire on 27th September 2007.

The Secretary of State's assessment of whether saved policies should be extended is based upon the criteria set out in Planning Policy Statement 12 and the Department for Communities and Local Government Protocol on saving policies.

The extension of saved policies listed in this Direction does not indicate that the Secretary of State would endorse these policies if presented to her as new policy. It is intended to ensure continuity in the plan-led system and a stable planning framework locally, and in particular, a continual supply of land for development.

Local planning authorities should not suppose that a regulatory local plan style approach will be supported in forthcoming Development Plan Documents. LPAs should adopt a positive spatial strategy led approach to DPD preparation and not seek to reintroduce the numerous policies of many local plans.

The exercise of extending saved policies is not an opportunity to delay DPD preparation. LPAs should make good progress with local development frameworks according to the timetables in their local development schemes. Policies have been extended in the expectation that they will be replaced promptly and by fewer policies in DPDs. Maximum use should be made of national and regional policy.

Following 27 September 2007 the extended policies should be read in context. Where policies were adopted some time ago, it is likely that material considerations, in particular the emergence of new national and regional policy and also new evidence, will be afforded considerable weight in decisions. In particular, we would draw your attention to the importance of reflecting policy in Planning Policy Statement 3 Housing and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments in relevant decisions.

Signed by the authority of the
Secretary of State



Alex Plant
Deputy Regional Director of Development & Infrastructure
Government Office for the East of England



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**DIRECTION UNDER PARAGRAPH 1(3) OF SCHEDULE 8 TO THE
PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004
POLICIES CONTAINED IN HERTSMERE LOCAL PLAN (ADOPTED 2003)**

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in the exercise of the power conferred by paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Act 2004 directs that for the purposes of the policies specified in Schedule 1 to this direction, paragraph 1(2)(a) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 does not apply.

Signed by the authority of the
Secretary of State



*Alex Plant
Deputy Regional Director of Development & Infrastructure
Government Office for the East of England
14th September 2007*