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26 June 2008

Our Ref:  
Your Ref:

Dear Mr Bevan

## **PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004 BERKSHIRE STRUCTURE PLAN 2001-2016 SAVED POLICIES APPLICATION**

I am writing with reference to your application on behalf of the Berkshire Joint Strategic Planning Unit and Unitary Authorities of 4 February for a direction under paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in respect of policies in the Berkshire Structure Plan 2001-2016.

The Secretary of State's Direction is attached. Those policies not listed in the Direction will expire on 15 July 2008.

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: *Local Spatial Planning* 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 (DPDs). 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 especially given the development plan status of the regional spatial strategy.

Following 15 July 2008, 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 the Housing Green Paper – *Homes for the future: more affordable, more sustainable* in relevant decisions.

Yours sincerely

JR Cheston

John Cheston  
Senior Planning Officer

**DIRECTION UNDER PARAGRAPH 1(3) OF SCHEDULE 8 TO THE PLANNING AND  
COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004  
POLICIES CONTAINED IN THE BERKSHIRE STRUCTURE PLAN 2001-2016  
ADOPTED 15 JULY 2005**

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in exercise of the power conferred by paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 directs that for the purposes of the policies specified in the 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 authority of the  
Secretary of State

*JR Cheston*

John Cheston  
Senior Planning Officer  
Housing and Planning Directorate  
Government Office for the South East

26 June 2008

## SCHEDULE

### POLICIES CONTAINED IN THE BERKSHIRE STRUCTURE PLAN 2001-2016

Policy Number	Policy Title/Purpose
DP1	Spatial strategy
DP2	Major development other than employment, housing, retail or leisure
DP3	Green Belt
DP4	Provision of infrastructure, services and amenities
DP5	Quality of urban and suburban areas
DP6	Land outside settlements
DP7	Strategic gaps and wedges
DP8	Rural communities
DP9	Blackwater Valley
EN1	Landscape
EN5	Air pollution and nuisance
EN7	Development and water resources
EN8	Renewable energy and energy conservation
H1	Overall housing provision
H2	Housing distribution and phasing
H3	Location of housing development
H5	Affordable housing
H7	Loss of housing
H8	Gypsy sites
E1	Location of employment development
E2	Acceptability of employment development
E3	Diversity of employment
E4	Future uses for employment land

Policy Number	Policy Title/Purpose
S1	Major retail and leisure development in town centres
S2	Retail development outside major town centres
S3	Leisure development outside major town centres
S4	Other sport, recreation, tourism and leisure uses
T1	Transport strategy
T2	Strategic transport network
T3	Facilitating the development of the strategic transport network
T4	Travel impacts
T5	Car parking
T6	Park and ride
M2	Areas for future working
W2	Locations for new facilities