

Ref: 26/1-26/4

From: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted]
Date: [Redacted]
Subject: Bassetlaw Publication Core Strategy and Deve.

[Redacted]

Dear Richard

Thank you for consulting the East Midlands Development Agency for our comments on the above. We have had the opportunity to review the Core Strategy and would like to make the following comments:

1. We welcome the fact that the work undertaken to establish the RSS targets for housing provision remains a sound basis for decisions about local housing growth. This seems a pragmatic way forward. However, your authority may need to consider the effect of more recent household projections upon housing provision.

26/1

2. We note that the affordable housing targets for different settlements vary quite considerably. This approach is fully justified if it is underpinned by a robust evidence base which illustrates differential levels of housing need. The affordable housing target for Worksop as the largest settlement is however set at a relatively low level. In addition, the policy approach for provision is relatively permissive as there is no strong presumption that affordable housing will be provided on site when new development takes place. This may well mean that the creation of mixed communities is less likely to be achieved. We welcome however the reference to the viability of development as a key consideration.

26/2

3. We welcome the strong policy focus on regeneration for Harworth. We acknowledge that the town has significant potential for housing and employment development. This could help to address some of the economic and social problems arising from the closure of the colliery in 2006 and help to develop links with the wider Sheffield City Region.

26/3

4. We support the policy approach towards employment land provision which states that it will be important to have mechanisms in place to ensure that key sites remain in employment uses, while less desirable sites are considered for redevelopment although this does not appear to be in accordance with the statement that "all allocated and existing, or vacant former, employment sites will be protected for economic development purposes."

26/4

We hope you will find these comments helpful.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted Signature]

Geoffrey Brown