

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

29th May 2018

John Conditment

RE: HEART OF PLANNING - NPPF.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

I understand and share your concerns regarding planning policy. That is why I welcome that the proposed revisions to the NPPF, which the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) has publicly "welcomed", address these concerns.

I am pleased that the revised NPPF gives further clarification to the existing strong protections for the Green Belt. It sets out the steps which a local planning authority must take before concluding that "exceptional circumstances" exist to allow boundaries of the Green Belt to be altered. Furthermore, I am pleased that the revised NPPF reaffirms protections for areas of outstanding natural beauty and national parks.

The draft NPPF will also introduce a new standardised approach to assessing housing need which will help to ensure that new homes are delivered in areas of high demand. I am also pleased that the revised NPPF sets out the need to prioritise the use of brownfield land and the importance of delivering more affordable housing. Furthermore, like the CPRE, I welcome that the draft NPPF "clarifies the primacy of local and neighbourhood plan policies in determining planning applications".

I am confident that the reforms to planning outlined in the draft NPPF will help address the housing crisis, building on the progress which the Government has already made, including delivering more than 1.1 million homes since 2010.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,

Tom

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE