

South Lakeland District Council
Core Strategy Public Examination
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22 June 2010

Dear «salutation»

The Examining Inspector, Mr Goodman, has asked me to draw your attention to recent government announcements in relation to Regional Spatial Strategies and national planning policy on housing. The composite list of government changes since the end of the hearings sessions are:

- Notice of intention to abolish Regional Spatial Strategies (Secretary of State's letter of 27 May 2010);
- Exclusion of residential garden land from the definition of Previously Developed Land in PPS3 Annex B;
- Deletion of the national indicative minimum density of 30 dwellings per hectare from PPS3 para 47.

Mr Goodman has sought the Council's views on these changes and their detailed statement can be viewed on the website via the following link
<http://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=3369>

If you do not enjoy computer access a hard copy can be sent to you on request. However to assist at this stage in summary terms the Council has indicated:

- Notwithstanding the likely abolition of the RSS SLDC's intention is broadly to follow the strategic framework set by the adopted RSS since in most respects it aligns with its own needs assessment and the evidence base supporting the strategy;
- The change in the PPS3 definition of garden land has little strategic impact as the Core Strategy's housing numbers are not reliant on such sites as a significant source of housing supply;
- The deletion of the PPS3 indicative minimum density of 30 dwellings per hectare is not viewed as being of strategic significance for South Lakeland as the 30 dph level is seen as a useful guide and not a prescriptive solution in all cases. Hence it prefers to keep the target in policy CS6.6.

The new Secretary of State has indicated that these proposed changes (for the RSS) and actual changes in PPS3 policy are material considerations for decision makers. As a result Mr Goodman would be interested to hear from you if you have views on the possible implications of these changes for the soundness of the submitted South Lakeland Core Strategy DPD.

Please keep any comments as brief as possible and note that written replies (by letter or email) should be received **on or before 5pm on Wednesday 7 July 2010.**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Rayner', written in a cursive style.

Miss Jenna Rayner
Programme Officer