

# KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

**Town Clerk**

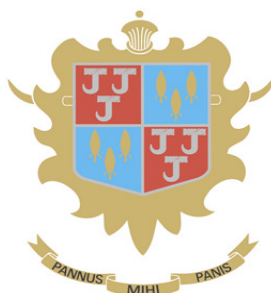
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6<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Jenna Rayner  
Programme Officer  
South Lakeland House  
Lowther Street  
Kendal  
Cumbria  
LA9 4DL

Dear Miss Rayner

## **South Lakeland Local Development Framework: Issues Relating To Soundness Following Government Changes To The Planning System**

Thankyou for you letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> June regarding the above. We would wish to offer the following comments.

The Town Council are in general agreement with the District Council's stated position in relation to the second and third bullet points, regarding the changes to PPS3 – ie the exclusion of residential garden land from the definition of Previously Developed Land and the deletion of the national indicative minimum density.

However, we do not agree in whole with the District Council's stated position in regard to the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies.

We would stress that the decision to abolish Regional Spatial Strategies was driven largely by the intention of the incoming Government to place decision-making powers on the release of large greenfield housing sites back in the hands of local people.

You will recall that the Town Council's main concern in regard to the Core Strategy was the significant level of greenfield land release the proposed development strategy would necessitate. We do not believe that this level of development is supported by the majority of local people. Whilst we can appreciate the Council's rationale for arguing the allocations should stand on the basis of local needs assessments, these present only one half of the picture. There is a need to balance need with environmental impact. We would stress

that a reduced housing allocation has never been presented as a viable option to the general public, since the Core Strategy has been predicated, since its inception, upon meeting the RSS housing requirement.

We appreciate the level of work that has gone into the preparation of the Core Strategy. We are satisfied that in other regards, the Strategy is sound. However, in light of the proposed abolition of the RSS, we do not believe that the Strategy is sound in relation to the proposed housing allocation. We would therefore, encourage a partial review of the Core Strategy, in regard to housing. This would allow for the proposed allocation to be reconsidered in light of both needs issues and environmental impacts, in consultation with local people.

Yours sincerely

Richard Pearse MRTPI  
Planning Officer, Friends of the Lake District  
On behalf of Kendal Town Council