



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE SOUTH WEST

Sarah Johnston
Senior Planning Officer
Bath & North East Somerset Council
Planning Services
Trimbridge House
Trim Street
Bath BA1 2DP

Thoss Shearer
Deputy Regional Director
Housing and Planning Delivery
2 Rivergate
Temple Quay
BRISTOL
BS1 6EH

Website: www.gosw.gov.uk

Our reference: SW/THM/5812/5
Your reference:

Direct Dial: 0117 900 1871
Fax 0117 900 1906
E-mail: David.Jones@gosw.qsi.gov.uk

15 October 2010

Dear Ms Johnston

I am writing with reference to your application of 12 March 2010 applying for a direction under paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in respect of policies in the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan adopted 2007.

The Secretary of State's Direction is attached. Those policies not listed in the Direction will expire on 18 October 2010.

The Secretary of State's assessment of whether saved policies should be extended is based upon the criteria set out in 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 him 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.

For clarity, where the Secretary of State's decisions differ from the views of your authority those reasons are set out in the table at the end of this letter.

Local planning authorities should not suppose that a regulatory local plan style approach will be supported in forthcoming Development Plan Documents. LPAs should adopt a positive spatial strategy led approach to

DPD preparation and not seek to reintroduce the numerous policies of the local plan.

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 policy

Policy Ref	Reason	Extended	Not Extended
NE.16	Repeats national policy		*

Following 18 October 2010 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 policy and also new evidence, will be afforded considerable weight in decisions.

Please note that if you any queries concerning the contents of this letter they should be directed to Dave Jones.

Yours sincerely


P.P. Thoss Shearer

Deputy Regional Director
Housing and Planning Delivery