

Date: 11 October 2010  
Our ref: 6913  
Your ref:



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Dear LDF Team

### **Draft Interim Housing Policy Consultation**

Thank you for consulting Natural England on the above policy. We support the restriction of development on greenfield sites, including gardens, in smaller villages. We would advise that stronger protection should also be afforded to gardens and other green spaces (such as 'pocket parks') in larger villages and towns, as they represent important elements of green infrastructure in urban areas. This could be achieved by amending part 2 of the policy to read:

*In all cases proposals will be expected to protect local amenity (including gardens and other green spaces...)*

We support the principal of favouring development in towns and service villages, which offer local employment opportunities and sustainable transport options, rather than small villages where residents would be more dependent on use of the private car.

I hope that these comments are helpful but if I can provide any further advice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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