



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

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*Dear Sarah,*

On 2 August 2021, the former Secretary of State wrote to you about important changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to support councils in delivering beautiful places to live and work and to ensure that communities have greater influence over development location and design.

He confirmed that, in line with the commitment in the NPPF consultation response, he had asked officials to prepare a planning practice guidance update on the way local authorities should reflect the recent NPPF paragraph 22 changes in their local plans to ensure that plan preparation can continue at pace whilst also ensuring that the Government's objectives are delivered.

I can now confirm that this guidance update has now been published and is available online at the following address: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making#delivery-of-strategic-matters>

I am grateful for the positive way the Inspectorate has engaged with my officials to ensure Inspectors reflect this new policy in a pragmatic and proportionate way. Please ensure that your Inspectors are alive to this new guidance.

*Yours Ever  
Chris*

**RT HON CHRISTOPHER PINCHER MP**