

27 March 2012

The Chief Planning Officer
Local Planning Authorities in England

Dear Colleague

National Planning Policy Framework

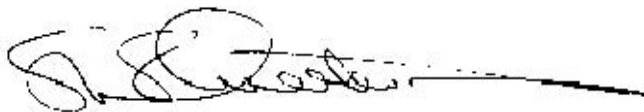
I am writing to let you know that the National Planning Policy Framework has been published today.

It is available on the Department's website at the following address:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf>.

The policies in the Framework apply with immediate effect. Implementation arrangements are set out in Annex 1 to the Framework.

To assist with any questions that local planning authorities may have about the implications of the Framework for plan making or decision taking, a helpline has been established jointly between the Local Government Association, the Planning Inspectorate and the Department for Communities and Local Government. The helpline is available from 9am until 4pm, Monday to Friday until further notice, on 0303 44 45500.

Yours faithfully



Steve Quartermain
Chief Planner