



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Baroness Taylor of Stevenage
*Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and
Local Government*
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Our reference: MC2024/19407

Cllr Richard Millard
Leader
East Hampshire District Council (EHDC)
PO Box 310
Petersfield
GU32 9HN

JMT September 2024

Dear Cllr Millard,

Thank you for your further letter of 21 August in response to the correspondence you received from me on 12 August, regarding housing targets in East Hampshire.

I am grateful to you for taking the time again to write to us on these matters. I am pleased to hear that EHDC will be responding to the consultation on our proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Department looks forward to reviewing EHDC's response. I would like to reassure you that we will carefully review all the responses received before setting out the Government's response and any final policy changes in a revised NPPF.

I am also glad to see that EHDC are seeking support through the Planning Advisory Service. It is our belief that having a local plan in place reduces speculative development and supports our villages, towns and cities to develop in a way that preserves the unique character of their communities.

You note that EHDC would like to send relevant officers to meet departmental officials so that they would be able to explain the complex nature of a local planning authority that is impacted by the presence of a national park. I can confirm that officials have been in contact with officers from EHDC and a meeting has been arranged for early October to discuss the issues raised and other relevant planning matters.

Thank you again for taking the time to write and I look forward to our further engagement with EHDC.

Yours sincerely,

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government