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Carolyn

Oldham Council Resolution – Restoring Government Funding for Brownfield Housing Development

Thank you for your letter of 17 July 2019, in which you raised concerns about the government's recent decision to withdraw the Greater Manchester Outline Housing Package, including a land fund intended to support the development of housing on brownfield sites by paying for the cost of remediation.

I recognise that this risks having a detrimental impact on the ability of Oldham and the other Greater Manchester local authorities to deliver both their ambitions for new homes on brownfield sites and to drive up housing supply overall.

I will raise these issues in my upcoming conversations with Robert Jenrick and Esther McVey. They are also part of a wider concern that there are a number of incongruities in the planning system that are causing both delays to build out and less sustainable development, that the LGA has and will continue to raise.

The LGA continues to champion devolution through our policy and lobbying work, including the ambitious proposals for devolution outlined in our recent *Councils Can* conference publication.¹ As part of our support offer to areas with devolution deals, we convene officer networks and are pleased that Greater Manchester is an active member across a number of networks, including that for housing and planning. This allows officers to share their experiences and hear what other areas are doing and informs the LGA's policy development.

If you would like to find out more about our work on devolution, housing or planning please do not hesitate to get in touch with the relevant officers in our policy team: Devolution - Dan Gardiner (daniel.gardiner@local.gov.uk) and Housing and planning - Jo Allchurch (jo.allchurch@local.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely



Councillor James Jamieson
Chairman

¹ <https://www.local.gov.uk/councils-can-2019-conference-paper>