



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Luke Hall MP

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Our Ref: 4371528

Thank you for your letter of 17 July to the Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP about restoring government funding for brownfield development. I am replying as this matter falls within my ministerial responsibilities.

As you are aware, within the Outline Housing Package agreed with Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), there was a commitment to delivering 227,200 homes by 2035 through the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF). In January 2019, the Combined Authority published the draft GMSF which plans for 200,980 homes across Greater Manchester over the period 2018-2037. This is below the 227,200 agreed in the outline agreement and so, regrettably, we were unable to progress with the implementation of the package. This was set out in a letter from Simon Ridley to Eamonn Boylan in March 2019.

We do, however, remain committed to continuing to support Greater Manchester's housing ambitions. As you will appreciate these are reliant on successful applications through existing competitions.

We also recognise that brownfield land can provide a valuable source of much needed land for the delivery of more homes. The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) makes clear that to meet local housing needs, as much use as possible should be made of brownfield land. The NPPF also states that planning policies and decisions should support appropriate opportunities to remediate despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated or unstable land.

I am aware that Homes England is working with a number of GMCA local authorities on sites submitted for the Local Authority Accelerated Construction programme. They are currently undergoing due diligence to establish whether the land is viable and can be developed on using the programme's criteria.

Thank you for writing in on this important matter.

LUKE HALL MP