

Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive
Oldham Council
Civic Centre
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13 September 2019

Ref: JM26081

Dear Carolyn

Please find enclosed a copy of the response I have received from the Minister for Local Government, Luke Hall MP, regarding Oldham Council's resolution for restoring government funding for brownfield housing development.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Serving the Communities of Chadderton, Royton and Oldham

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Ministry of Housing,
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Jim McMahon OBE MP
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Luke Hall MP
Minister for Local Government and Homelessness

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Our Ref: 4370014
Your ref: JM26081

Dear Jim

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

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.

Yours ever,

LUKE HALL MP

Cc: Dr Carolyn Wilkins MP