



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS

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Dear John

WEST MIDLANDS RSS INTERIM POLICY STATEMENTS

Thank you for your letter of 29 March regarding the Interim Policy Statements.

We appreciate the large amount of effort which has gone into ensuring the Policy Statements have been delivered through a process which gives them considerable weight. The consultation, evidence, and sustainability appraisals supporting the Statements have ensured a robust basis for the difficult decisions which were necessary to deliver them.

The Policy Statements should now be progressed so that the principles are covered in the Regional Strategy, which will in due course be examined prior to adoption as a part of the statutory development plan.

Further to Dave Marr's letter of 8th October we will now expect planning authorities to ensure their Development Plan Documents are sufficiently flexible to enable them to deliver the requirements set down in the Policy Statements.

I am copying your letter and this reply to all planning authorities and AWM. We would be pleased to discuss any issues this raises in relation to Development Plan Documents.

Yours sincerely

Ian Smith
Head of Planning and Housing