

**Chris Skidmore MP**  
KINGSWOOD



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Planning Inspectorate  
Registry/Scanning  
Room 3/05 Kite Wing  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol BS1 6PN

2 June 2010

*Dear Sir,*

I enclose a copy of a letter sent by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Eric Pickles, confirming to Council Leaders the intention to rapidly abolish Regional Spatial Strategies.

The letter also states that "I expect local Planning Authorities and the Planning Inspectorate to have regard to this letter as a material planning consideration in any decisions they are currently taking."

I would be very grateful if you would confirm that this letter is 'emerging policy' which will be taken into consideration. There are currently several applications to build on greenbelt land in South Gloucestershire, including one application at Mangotsfield which will be heard by the Planning Inspectorate at appeal in July. Confirmation that the Inspectorate will no longer have regard to the previous government's Regional Spatial Strategies would therefore be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

*Chris Skidmore*

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