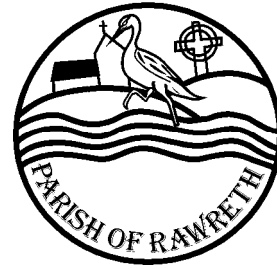


# RAWRETH PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk to the Council:**

**Mrs Hayley L Bloomfield  
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**Miss Laura Graham B Sc MA MRTPI  
Planning Inspector  
C/O Programme Officer  
RDC**

**16<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

**Dear Miss Graham**

**In your letter to RDC you noted that the changes they now deem necessary to adjust the housing policies within the Core Strategy , following the Government's revocation of Regional Strategies, including the East of England Plan, could not be regarded as minor and that these changes need to be the subject of consultation. This consultation would need to be for a minimum of six weeks.**

**You have also asked for a comprehensive Topic paper on Affordable Housing and, although this paper was referred to by the Portfolio Holder in Full Council on the 27 July, 2010 this has not been made available. We believe this is necessary to enable all consultees to form a considered view of this particular aspect of the Core Strategy.**

**A Motion was put to the Council at that meeting for a full and comprehensive local housing needs study which we believe is absolutely necessary. Unfortunately, this Motion was defeated but that does not take away our belief in the necessity to hold this Study before the Core Strategy is agreed and final figures are determined.**

**We believe that the local, affordable housing figure of 196 recommended in the SHMA 2010 and the new one of 60 per year are both wrong and, in the absence of this further local study, cannot be justified and, therefore, this whole approach must be UNSOUND.**

**We are still very concerned with the impact of the Core Strategy Locations on the highways and landscape, particularly within the Green Belt. We do not believe that the Council has shown any exceptional circumstances, required under PPG2, to justify altering Green Belt boundaries to such an extent to accommodate such large developments, particularly that marked " North of London Road" which would remove very vital, quality farmland.**

**We have been contacted by many of our residents who are concerned that, Rochford District Council appear to be pressing ahead with their proposed plans for large scale development without any consideration whatsoever of the Government's recent action and advice.**

**Yours sincerely,**

**Mrs Hayley Bloomfield  
Clerk to Rawreth Parish Council**