



**SAVE OUR GREENBELT
DINNINGTON & ANSTON ACTION GROUP**

Nick Boles MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

33 Birkdale Avenue
Dinnington
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S25 2SX
25th October 2013

Dear Mr Boles

Development of Brownfield sites.

Firstly, we would like to thank you for your encouraging reply of 7th May 2013.

After several meetings with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and informal discussions with developers' representatives at a current Inspector's hearing it is clear that development of many Brownfield sites is not attractive to developers. We understand that developers must have a return on their investment.

Even though the NPPF calls for a prioritisation of Brownfield sites for development and RMBC have a commitment to deliver Brownfield sites, these sites are not attracting developers in the numbers required. Instead, developers are favouring the development of Greenbelt land. Correspondence with other like-minded groups show that this non-preference by developers for Brownfield sites is not restricted to South Yorkshire. Local communities were encouraged by the NPPF, in terms of Brownfield prioritisation, but are becoming increasingly disappointed by its perceived implementation.

As one of the aims of having Greenbelt boundaries is to promote the development of Brownfield sites in preference to the Greenbelt can we respectfully suggest that central government consider methods of making the development of Brownfield sites more viable for local authorities and developers, thus protecting the Greenbelt and strengthening the NPPF in its practical implementation. Given the current monetary pressures, we do acknowledge that the nation has to operate with fiscal prudence. However, we remain optimistic in the notion that there must be some form of imaginative solution available to the Brownfield challenge.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this document.

Yours sincerely

Diane Walker

Secretary
Save Our Greenbelt Dinnington & Anston Action Group

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