

Making homes happen

Programme Officer - Core Strategy Review Folkestone & Hythe District Council Civic Centre Castle Hill Avenue Folkestone Kent CT20 2QY

18 June 2021

Dear Sir/ Madam

Core Strategy Review Examination – Homes England Response Main Matter 7 Garden Settlement Session – transport issues

I refer to Matters 7 and 11 of the Examination into the Folkestone and Hythe Core Strategy Review (June 2021) and the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between Folkestone & Hythe District Council and Highways England. Having reviewed the SocG, Homes England wishes to restate its support, as previously identified in the New Garden Settlement Joint Delivery Statement and our letter dated 3rd July 2020, for the delivery of the development proposals set out in the Core Strategy Review and in particular the Otterpool Park New Garden Settlement proposal (as supported by policies SS6 to SS9)

Homes England is the government's housing accellerator and has the capability to invest upfront in land and enabling infrastructure that is necessary to unlock sites. Homes England is providing support for delivery of this project as part of the government's Garden Community Programme, and as a significant landowner (owning approximately 10% of the Otterpool Park allocation) is liaising with the council on revisions to the current planning application to enable development to come forward as soon as possible. We are committed to continuing to work alongside Folkestone and Hythe District Council, Highways England, Otterpool Park LLP and other parties in order to identify the delivery mechanisms and funding sources necessary to enable the delivery of the Core Strategy Review and the New Garden Settlement.

Yours faithfully,

Senior Planning and Enabling Manager

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