



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

**The Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP**  
*Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local  
Government*

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Councillor Linda Haysey,  
Leader of East Hertfordshire District Council  
Wallfields  
Pegs Lane  
Hertford  
SG13 8EQ

11 September 2018

Dear Councillor Haysey

#### **East Hertfordshire District Council's Local Plan**

I have received several requests to intervene in the East Herts District Plan ("the Plan"), including from Stephen McPartland MP (Stevenage), the Hertfordshire branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, Aston Parish Council, Eastwick & Gilston Parish Council, Thorley Parish Council, Bishop's Stortford Civic Federation and Protecting Aston's Community Existence (PACE). The requests raise a number of issues including the proposed release of land within the Green Belt.

In respect of the issues identified above, I am considering whether to give a direction to East Hertfordshire District Council in relation to the Plan under section 21 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Therefore, in exercise of my powers under section 21A of that Act (inserted by section 145(5) of the Housing and Planning Act 2016), I hereby direct East Hertfordshire District Council not to take any step in connection with the adoption of the Plan, while I give the issues raised in the letters further consideration.

This direction will remain in force until I withdraw it or give a direction under section 21 of the 2004 Act in relation to the Plan.

My officials will be in touch with your officers to discuss next steps.

*Yours sincerely,*

**RT HON JAMES BROKENSHERE MP**