

## **Member motion: Planning White Paper as proposed by Councillor Loughlin Council – Thursday, 8 October**

### **This Council notes:**

- The publication by Government of the White Paper, 'Planning for the Future' sets out proposals to change the planning process.
- Currently, the vast majority of planning applications are given the go ahead by local authority planning committees, with permission granted to around 9 out of 10 applications nationally.
- That research by the Local Government Association has found that there are existing planning permissions for more than one million homes that have not yet been started.

### **This Council is concerned that the proposals seek to:**

1. Reduce or remove the right of residents to object to applications near them.
2. Grant automatic rights for developers to build on land identified as 'for growth'.
3. Remove section 106 payments for infrastructure and their replacement with a national levy.

### **This Council Further Notes:**

1. The Royal Institute for British Architects called the proposals "shameful and will do almost nothing to guarantee delivery of affordable, well-designed and sustainable homes". RIBA also said that proposals could lead to the next generation of slum housing.
2. The reforms are opposed by the all-party Local Government Association, currently led by Conservative Councillors.

### **This Council Believes:**

1. That existing planning procedures, as currently administered by our own team in Uttlesford, allow for local democratic control over future development, and give local people a say in planning proposals that affect them.
2. That proposals for automatic rights to build in 'growth' areas, and increased permitted development rights, risk unregulated growth and unsustainable communities.
3. That local communities must be in the driving seat on shaping the future of their communities, and that local determination of the planning framework and planning applications play an important part in this process.

### **This Council resolves to:**

1. Take part in the consultation on the planning proposals, and to make representations against the proposals as outlined in this motion.
2. Write to and lobby our Member of Parliament, urging her to oppose these proposals, and also to oppose proposals for much higher, algorithmically generated housing growth in Uttlesford, and to circulate her reply to all members.
3. Continue to highlight its concerns over these proposals with local media and residents.

**Proposer: Cllr Janice Loughlin**