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Mrs J Greenway  
Reading Borough Council  
Admin Officer  
Planning Dept Level 8  
Civic Offices  
Reading  
Berkshire  
RG1 7TD

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date:

APP/E0345/E/10/2128188/NWF  
**Further appeal references at  
foot of letter**

23 December 2010

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Dear Mrs Greenway

**Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and Town and Country Planning Act 1990  
Appeals by Kennet Properties  
Site at Reservoir And Pumping Station, Bath Road, Reading, RG1 6PG**

I refer to the above appeals.

As you know, the inquiry closed on 26 November 2010, which was after the outcome of the Challenge in the Cala Homes (South) Ltd case (2010 EWHC 2866) was issued, which quashed the revocation of Regional Strategies (RS), announced on 6 July. Therefore, while the inquiry was open, RS formed an ongoing part of the development plan. Nonetheless, the Government's intention to revoke RS remained, and this was affirmed in a written Ministerial Statement and a letter from DCLG's Chief Planner, both dated 10 November.

These documents however then became the subject of a further legal challenge to the Secretary of State, by Cala Homes. Whilst the outcome of this further challenge will not be known until probably late January 2011, the High Court made an interim order on 3 December. The Annex to that order states: "*decision makers in local planning authorities and the Planning Inspectorate will in their determination of planning applications and appeals need to consider whether the existence of the challenge, and the basis of it, affects the significance and weight which they judge may be given to the Secretary of State's statements and to the letter of the Chief Planner.*" You will of course also be aware that the Localism Bill has now been published and that also contains (at Clause 89) the intention to abolish RS.

The purpose of this letter therefore is to invite any comments you may wish to make on the above (ie the Secretary of State's stated intention and the above-quoted order of the court). If you do wish to comment, you should not include any references to any other matters.



Please send any comments to me, by letter or preferably email, to be received by Tuesday 11 January 2011. Please also send, at the same time, your comments to the other party (to whom I have written in identical terms). If necessary, a further period will then be given for any further (and final) comments.

If you have any questions, please let me know. In the meantime, the bespoke programme has been amended to delete the date previously given for the issue of the Inspector's decision, due to the need to seek your views, as set out above. Once this consultation period is over, we will give a new date by when the decision will be issued.

Yours sincerely

pp Sian Evans

211B(BPR)

**Further appeal references:- APP/E0345/A/10/2128186**

*You can use the Internet to submit documents, to see information and to check the progress of this case through the Planning Portal. The address of our search page is -*

*<http://www.pcs.planningportal.gov.uk/pcsportal/casearch.asp>*

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