



**The Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP**  
*Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government*

**Department for Communities and Local Government**

Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
London SW1E 5DU

Tel: 0303 444 3450  
Fax: 0303 444 3289  
E-Mail: [eric.pickles@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eric.pickles@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

[www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)

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*Dear Chief Planner*

**ABOLITION OF REGIONAL STRATEGIES**

I am writing to you today to highlight our commitment in the coalition agreements where we very clearly set out our intention to rapidly abolish Regional Strategies and return decision making powers on housing and planning to local councils. Consequently, decisions on housing supply (including the provision of travellers sites) will rest with Local Planning Authorities without the framework of regional numbers and plans.

I will make a formal announcement on this matter soon. However, I expect Local Planning Authorities and the Planning Inspectorate to have regard to this letter as a material planning consideration in any decisions they are currently taking.

*Yours  
Eric Pickles*

**THE RT HON ERIC PICKLES MP**