nbpm cc BG

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

The Rt Hon Michael Jopling MP
Department of Agriculture Fisheries
and Food
Whitehall Place
LONDON
SW1

9 September 1986

Dear Michael

file with AB

THE FUTURE OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Thank you for your letter of 1 September commenting on my proposals for the future of development plans.

Your main concern is that Government policy for the protection of agricultural land is taken properly into account in the strategic planning process. That is certainly the intention and I am happy to amend the paper to include a reference to this, though I don't think para 49 is the best place for it. I have asked my officials to agree with yours how it can best be done.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours ever

Nicholas

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

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Local Govt Planning PT3.

nbpm ccBG

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

The Earl of Caithness
Minister for Shipping
Department of Transport
2 Marsham Street
LONDON
SW1

9 September 1986

Dear Malcolm

THE FUTURE OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Thank you for your letter of 1 September commenting on my proposals for the future of development plans.

I agree that we should continue to keep the formal highway procedures separate from those for development plans and that the consultation paper should make this clear. I am also content to delete the reference to SACTRA's recent report. My officials are discussing with yours suitable amendments to make these changes.

I am copying this letter to the receipients of yours.

Yours ever

Nick

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

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Local Govt. Planning PT3

16pm - CCBS

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON SW1A 2HH

From the Minister

The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP
Secretary of State for the Environment
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
SW1P 3EB

1 September 1986

Dear Nicholas

FILE WITH MEET

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 18 August to Willie Whitelaw with your draft consultation paper on proposals for simplifying and improving the development plan system.

MAFF does, of course, have a considerable interest in these matters in that we are consulted by County and District planning authorities on the agricultural implications of structures and local plans. It is important that, in any revised procedures we continue to be able to ensure that the Government's policy for the protection of agricultural land is taken properly into account in the strategic planning process.

The proposals you put forward in your draft consultation paper lay great stress on the need for early, wide public consultation in the drawing up of the local plans, of the regional and sub-regional guidance you will be issuing and of the planning statements the Counties will be issuing. I am sure you would agree that it should be made clear that MAFF will continue to play a full role in these consultations. To this end, I would be grateful if agriculture could be specifically mentioned in paragraph 49 of the draft as one of the subjects which all counties would need to deal with.

Subject to this amendment, I am content that you should proceed as you propose. My officials will let yours have comments on the detailed proposals once the consultation paper issues. In particular they will consider carefully the implications of the proposals to introduce rural conservation areas.

I am copying this to the Prime Minister, Members of H Committee, Paul Channon, John Moore and Robert Armstrong.

Yours

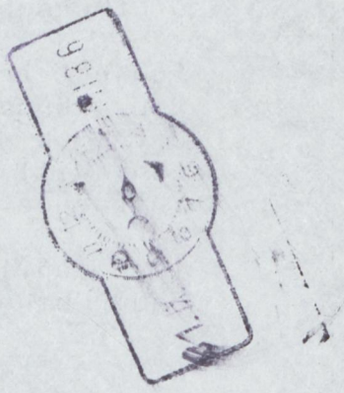
Michael

MICHAEL JOPLING

LOCKE GOLF

PLANNING

PT 3



nbpm CCBO

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
1-19 VICTORIA STREET
LONDON SW1H 0ET
Telephone (Direct dialling) 01-215)
GTN 215) 5422
(Switchboard) 01-215 7877

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

12 September 1986

The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP
Secretary of State for the Environment
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
LONDON
SW1

Dear Nicholas,

Thank you for your letter of 9 September, in reply to mine of 1 September. I have also seen, among others, Michael Jopling's letter of 1 September and your reply to him of 9 September.

I am grateful to you for your reassurances about the use of your reserve powers where local planning policies do not take adequate account of the need of industry; I understand that our officials have agreed the handling of the other points raised in my letter.

There is one point in your correspondence with Michael Jopling which caused us some concern. I understand that in response to Michael Jopling's letter your Departments have included in the consultation document a reference to policy "for the protection of high quality agricultural land", as one of those of which Counties would have to take account. This policy is of course currently under review in the context of the interdepartmental exercise on the alternative use of agricultural land, on which I understand Michael Jopling will shortly be making proposals to colleagues. Since the options we shall be considering include substantial changes to existing policy, it is important that these words should not be regarded as prejudging the possibility of such change. On that understanding, I do not object to them.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Willie Whitelaw, Peter Walker, Michael Jopling, John Moore, other H Committee members and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours

Paul

PAUL CHANNON

DW3AXZ

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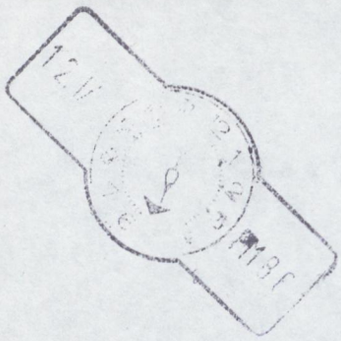

LOCAL GOVT
PLANNING
PT 3