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Subject: Planning Advice Note (PAN) on 'Implementation of Strategic Planning Policy for
Development in the Countryside'

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to inform you of the Minister for Infrastructure's decision to bring forward a Planning Advice Note (PAN) on 'Implementation of Regional Planning Policy for Development in the Countryside'. The purpose of the PAN is to re-emphasise fundamental aspects of strategic planning policy for development in the countryside, as contained in the SPPS and to clarify certain policy matters, such as for 'Integration and rural character'; 'Dwellings on farms'; 'Infill/ribbon development'; and, 'Dwellings in existing clusters'.

Since the publication of the SPPS the Department issued a 'Call for Evidence' and commissioned independent consultants to undertake research on this policy area. The overall aim of the research was to provide an updated evidential context to inform the best strategic planning policy approach for development in the countryside. Having carefully considered all of the relevant factors, including the consultants' report, the Minister is satisfied that the policy approach provided for by the SPPS remains appropriate, robust and is fit for purpose for the two tier planning system. The PAN does not add to or change existing planning policy.

The Planning Advice Note (PAN) can be accessed using the following link: www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/PAN-countryside

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours faithfully,

Angus Kerr
Chief Planner & Director of Regional Planning
Department for Infrastructure

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