



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS

Dear Stakeholder

**EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL PLAN (REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY) – PUBLICATION BY
THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

This letter is to inform you that Hazel Blears, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, has now published the final revision of the East Midlands Regional Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy), a copy of which is enclosed. The Regional Plan provides a regional framework for development and investment over the next fifteen to twenty years, and is part of the statutory development plan for every local authority in the East Midlands. It replaces RSS8 (issued in March 2005) with the exception of Part A of the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy which remains extant.

The Secretary of State published Proposed Changes to the Regional Plan for consultation on 22 July 2008, with comments invited by 17 October 2008. Every organisation and person involved in earlier stages of RSS preparation were consulted on the Proposed Changes and associated documents. In response to the consultation exercise a total of 2,549 comments were received from 735 people and organisations. All responses are available to view on the GOEM consultation portal website at the following address: <http://goem-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>. All representations made on the Proposed Changes have been taken into account. Comments on the original draft RSS published by the Regional Assembly in September 2006 and statements relating to the Examination in Public held between May and July 2007 were also considered. Whilst it was not practical to itemise every individual comment, a schedule which summarises all key points and details the reasons for the further changes made to the RSS, is published as a supporting document to the Regional Plan. Also published are the Sustainability Appraisal and a Habitats Regulations Assessment plus other supporting documents, all of which are on the enclosed CD.

The Regional Plan and all supporting documents are available for viewing at libraries and Council offices* throughout the East Midlands and are also available on the Government Office for the East Midlands website (www.gos.gov.uk/goem). Hard copies of the Regional Plan can be obtained from The Stationery Office (www.tsoshop.co.uk), Tel: 0870 6005522.

Further information is available from the Sustainable Communities Team, Government Office for the East Midlands, Belgrave Centre, Stanley Place, Talbot Street, Nottingham NG1 5GG. Tel 0115 971 2663. E-mail: regional-planningem@goem.gsi.gov.uk

***Would Chief Executives departments and Libraries in receipt of this letter please ensure copies are available for public inspection.**

Yours sincerely

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