

Hilary Jordan
Planning (Community & Policy Development)
Corporate Manager

By email.

2nd November 2018

Dear Ms Jordan

Re: North Dorchester Garden Communities Bid

Thank you for your letter dated 28th October asking for support for the above funding bid in relation to the proposed North Dorchester development. I have briefly discussed this application with Terry Sneller so was aware of your interest in this process.

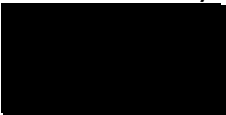
As you know Dorset is a very special place in terms of its environment, and in particular its national significance for biodiversity. As such any development of this scale should not only minimise impact on the environment but also create a net gain. If the Council are minded to develop this area, then it must be to exceptionally high environmental standards, including significant benefits for wildlife and for access to natural, wildlife-rich greenspaces by the new and existing community of the area.

If development does take place in North Dorchester, as per the proposals in the draft Local Plan, there is a significant opportunity for it to be a national green exemplar, exceeding the standards set out in the prospectus for the Garden Communities Programme. To help plan for this outcome, the Garden Communities approach would seem to be one which could help, and we would be keen to be involved.

As part of the programme we would be interested in discussing the 'Building with Nature' approach with you. This scheme gives national level accreditation to developments setting a high standard for wildlife. Please follow this link for information on this; <https://www.buildingwithnature.org.uk/>.

We support the Council's approach to obtaining funds through the Garden Communities Programme and would be keen to provide input re the above concepts as you develop the masterplan.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Pollard
Head of Living Landscapes and Seas



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