



Ms Hilary Jordan
Head of Planning, community and policy
development
West Dorset District Council
South Walks House
South Walks Road
Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1UZ

Our ref: H Jordan. 27.11.18. GP-ND
Your ref: -

27th November 2018

Dear Ms Jordan,

North Dorchester Garden Communities Bid

On behalf of the North Dorchester Consortium I would like to confirm our strong support to West Dorset District Council in its bid to Garden Communities Programme.

The North Dorchester Consortium comprises Grainger plc and Persimmon Homes plc, who are working to deliver a long-term solution to Dorchester's future housing, employment and infrastructure needs. Both these companies are working collaboratively to promote a single proposal and vision for North Dorchester.

As you know, the Consortium has recently consulted on its response to the Council's vision for North Dorchester, as set out in its Preferred Options Plan. It is striking how aligned the Consortium and the Council are in respect of achieving a comprehensive and high quality design for what will be the long term growth option for the County Town.

North Dorchester, as the largest and most unconstrained site around the town, is the most logical direction for growth and the only option that can deliver significant infrastructure, employment and placemaking for the County Town whilst meeting real housing need within Dorchester.

Planned appropriately, our shared vision will deliver the following benefits for the whole of Dorchester:

1. New neighbourhoods for the town, delivering family homes with a focus on affordability and supporting shops and services, including a medical centre;
2. A new northern Link Road connecting the A35 to the A37, bringing relief to the southern bypass and the High Street;
3. New employment opportunities;
4. Three tier education campus to expand education provision within Dorchester;

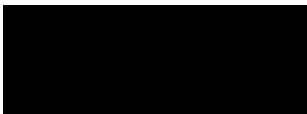
5. Pedestrian and cycle links connecting the Town Centre with the new Frome Valley park, proposed neighbourhoods and the countryside beyond.
6. The opening up of an area of water meadows totaling 80ha or 200 acres, to be provided as a major recreational facility and nature reserve for the enjoyment of the whole town and to be the focus of a new heritage tourism strategy for Dorchester.

The last point is significant: the new Frome Valley park will turn all of Dorchester in to a garden community when it delivers a substantial open space resource, a resource which can be accessed by the whole town within just a few minutes walk of the High Street.

The garden communities bid will help to ensure that the Council and the North Dorchester Consortium can continue to work together to deliver a well-designed comprehensive development that is distinctive and delivers social, economic and environmental improvements to the whole of Dorchester.

West Dorset District Council has our support and the Consortium is ready to collaborate with the Council to deliver a successful Garden Community.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Chris Pattison.

Chris Pattison
On behalf of the North Dorchester Consortium