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Dear Sir

EXTENSION OF SAVED POLICIES

I am writing with reference to your application of 21 May 2008 for a Direction under Paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in respect of policies in the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council Replacement Unitary Development Plan.

The Secretary of State's Direction is attached. Those policies not listed in the Direction will expire on 31 October 2008.

The extension of saved policies listed in this Direction does not indicate that the Secretary of State would endorse these policies if presented to her as new policy. It is intended to ensure continuity in the plan-led system and a stable planning framework locally, and in particular, a continual supply of land for development.

Local Planning Authorities should not suppose that a regulatory local plan style approach will be supported in forthcoming Development Plan Documents. Local Planning Authorities should adopt a positive spatial strategy led approach to DPD preparation and not seek to reintroduce the numerous policies of many local plans.

The exercise of extending saved policies is not an opportunity to delay DPD preparation. Local Planning Authorities should make good progress with local development frameworks according to the timetables in their local development schemes. Policies have been extended in the expectation that they will be replaced promptly and by fewer policies in DPDs. Maximum use should be made of national and regional policy especially given the advanced position of the Regional Spatial Strategy and its development plan status.

Following 27 September 2007 the extended policies should be read in context. Where policies were adopted some time ago, it is likely that material considerations, in particular the emergence of new national and regional policy and also new evidence, will be afforded considerable weight in decisions. In particular, we would draw your attention to the importance of reflecting policy in Planning Policy Statement 3 *Housing* and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments in relevant decisions.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

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