

**SAJID JAVID MP**



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Michael J Hetherington, BSc(Hons) MA MRTPI MCIEEM,  
Local Planning Inspector

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Dear Mr Heatherington,

Following my correspondence to you dated 4th June 2014, I would be grateful for an update on Bromsgrove's position in the cross-boundary issue of accommodating Redditch's housing need.

In particular, I would appreciate your interim conclusions on the concerns my constituents have raised about the Duty to Cooperate and the protection of green belt land from development, as outlined in my previous letter.

As you move onto the December hearings, I wish to re-emphasise the continued strength of concern amongst my constituents on this process. There is a firm wish to see national policy upheld to protect green belt land. As my colleague, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, has recently emphasised, housing need does not justify the harm done to the green belt by inappropriate development, and green belt boundaries should only be adjusted in exceptional circumstances. The ability of Bromsgrove District Council to remain objective in this process is therefore paramount. Residents do not wish to see the Duty to Cooperate overshadow this principle.

Whilst I of course appreciate the growth needs of neighbouring authorities, Bromsgrove must not be obliged to accept unlimited growth requests – particularly in light of its own future housing needs. I hope that these views will be taken into strong consideration as the hearings proceed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sajid Javid', written over a vertical yellow line.

**BROMSGROVE**

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