

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Epping Forest and Commons	26 January 2016
Subject: Request for delegated authority to respond to the Department for Communities and Local Government Consultation on proposed changes to National Planning Policy.	Public
Report of: Director of Open Spaces SEF 02/16	Decision

Summary

This report seeks your Committee's approval for delegated authority to respond to a Public Consultation document published by the Department for Communities and Local Government proposing changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Consultation closes on 22 February 2016.

The Consultation document contains six proposals to simplify the provision of new homes, with two of particular potential impact. The proposals suggest increases to the residential densities for new developments close to areas defined as 'transport hubs' and also propose weakening openness considerations when developing brownfield sites within the Green Belt. Both these proposed changes have the potential to place further pressure on the context and setting of Open Spaces located within or close to the Metropolitan Green Belt.

Your Committee is encouraged to respond to the consultation emphasising the importance of protecting Open Spaces potentially affected by these changes, highlighting the primary importance of Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Special Area of Conservation status.

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

- authority be delegated to the Town Clerk; in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman and Director of Open Spaces to provide a suitable response to the Consultation.