

Cllr Nigel Ashton Leader, North Somerset Council Town Hall Walliscote Road Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ The Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP

Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Department for Communities and Local Government

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Your Ref: DT/SMS

Dear Higel

I have received representations from David Turner, Director of Development, North Somerset Council, Liam Fox MP and John Penrose MP requesting that I exercise the powers of intervention under section 21 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in respect of Policy CS13: Housing requirement and supporting text of the North Somerset Council Core Strategy.

Having considered these representations carefully, I note that the North Somerset Core Strategy has undergone a complex and protracted examination at a time of transition in national planning policy. This has involved legal challenge and the quashing of a key policy. I wish to review and consider the Inspector's conclusions on Policy CS13 Housing Requirement to ensure national policy has been applied and reflected correctly. I wish to ensure that there is maximum clarity for the community on the outcome of the examination.

Accordingly, in exercise of the powers under section 21(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, I hereby direct that Policy CS13: Housing requirement and supporting text of the North Somerset Council Core Strategy is submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

THE RT HON ERIC PICKLES MP