

Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

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Thank you for your email of 22 December to Rt Hon Michael Gove MP concerning planning reforms and the planning enforcement regime. I am replying as Minister of State for Housing. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

We need a modernised planning system – one which embraces communities and creates places in which people can take real pride. We are now considering how best to take forward last year's proposals for planning reform, and an integral part of this is considering how they align with and support the department's wider mission to level-up the country.

As part of this review of the planning reforms, we are considering how to make it easier for local planning authorities to tackle intentional unauthorised development and make sure the retrospective planning process is not abused. An announcement on next steps for the planning reforms will be made shortly.

Thank you again for your email. I hope you find this information helpful.

RT HON STUART ANDREW MP