



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

**Simon Ridley**

Decentralisation and Growth

**Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local  
Government**

Fry Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Matthew Prosser  
Chief Executive, West Dorset

Email:  
GardenCommunities@communities.gov.uk  
Tel: 0303 444 0000

[www.gov.uk/mhclg](http://www.gov.uk/mhclg)

**27 June 2019**

Dear Matthew,

**Re: North Dorchester**

I am delighted to confirm that, following a competitive bidding process, you have been selected to join the Garden Communities Programme. We have allocated £150,000 of capacity funding to support the delivery of North Dorchester for the 2019/2020 financial year.

There was a very strong response to the prospectus we published last summer inviting local partners to come forward with ambitious locally-supported new Garden Communities. I am pleased that North Dorchester is one of 19 Garden Villages selected.

The creation of well-planned and designed, locally-led Garden Villages makes a critical contribution to our ambitions both to build 300,000 homes a year by the mid-2020s, and to provide a stable pipeline of homes for the future. But this is not a numbers game – these places have the potential to become vibrant new communities where people can live and work, and to create a legacy that will be enjoyed and valued by future generations. Our ambition is that your new Garden Village sets a new standard for planning and delivering new settlements at scale that can support a local area's housing and economic growth ambitions.

As you know, delivering a Garden Village carries costs that go beyond the typical remit of local authorities: capacity funding ensures that places have the resources to fulfil their growth ambitions. We will be in touch to discuss your plans and approach, including how the funding can be put to best use. Other aspects of our support include expert delivery advice from

Homes England and cross-government brokerage to resolve strategic policy barriers to delivery.

The Garden Communities Programme demonstrates how local partners and central government can work together innovatively to transform local communities. Our support will be focused on enabling the creation of Garden Villages that are beautiful and sustainable; that are supported by the right infrastructure; and that benefit new and existing communities alike.

If you have any questions please contact Frank Danielsigbinobaro, who will be leading on this area of the Garden Communities work on: [GardenCommunities@communities.gov.uk](mailto:GardenCommunities@communities.gov.uk)

I welcome your ambitious plans for high quality housing growth that North Dorchester represents and look forward to working with you.

Yours Sincerely,



**Simon Ridley**

Director General, Decentralisation and Growth  
Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government