

ANDREW LANSLEY CBE MP
(SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE)



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Mike Jocelyn
3 Kemmann Lane
CAMBOURNE
Cambridge
CB3 6AU

28th March 2003

Dear Mr. Jocelyn,

Further to our recent e:mail correspondence I enclose for your information a copy of my letter dated 27th March 2003 to South Cambridgeshire District Council Planning Department regarding the outline planning application for additional dwellings and facilities at Cambourne.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Lansley', written over a horizontal line.

Andrew Lansley

Please reply to:
153 ST NEOTS ROAD, HARDWICK, CAMBRIDGE, CB3 7QJ
TEL: 01954 212707 FAX: 01954 211625

Mr David Hussell
Planning Director
South Cambridgeshire District Council
South Cambridgeshire Hall
9-11 Hills Road
CAMBRIDGE
CB2 1PB

27th March 2003

Thank you for providing me with details of the outline planning application from MCA Developments Ltd for 1,744 additional dwellings, primary schools, public open space and associated infrastructure at Cambourne.

I should be grateful if you would record my objection to this application, on the basis of the following points

- (i) the application is inconsistent with the Master Plan of the Cambourne new settlement as previously approved and with the framework put in place pursuant to that;
- (ii) the service levels and infrastructure of Cambourne is consistent with a maximum of 3,300 dwellings, not an enhanced number;
- (iii) Cambourne is intended to be a linked network of three villages, with village-style design, layouts and densities. The increased densification proposed is inconsistent with this;
- (iv) substantial changes in the design and character of Cambourne will be contrary to the basis on which hundreds of my constituents have committed themselves to living in the new settlement and who are making a success of it as a community. Their wishes should be fully respected;
- (v) the Deputy Prime Minister's Statement concerning minimum densities for new developments clearly cannot be retrospective;
- (vi) in any case, the purpose of the Deputy Prime Minister's Statement is to ensure that a higher proportion of new development is on brownfield sites, but the whole Cambourne site is a greenfield site, so the policy impetus is not relevant here; and
- (vii) the issues relating to the Structure Plan and Cambourne enhancement are not relevant to this application, because the Inspectors were asked to consider an extension of the new settlement onto Bourn Airfield, including brownfield land, and in the context of a major public transport infrastructure development (e.g. the Bedford-Cambridge rail link along the A428 corridor as included in the London South Midlands Multi-Modal Study). Neither of these factors apply in this case.

I believe this adds up to a compelling case for refusal of the application, which is wholly contrary to Development Plan policies, in proposing high density urban-style development in a greenfield context. I should be grateful if these points, or my letter, could be made available to the Development Control Committee.

Andrew Lansley