



26 September 2024

2nd Floor, The Lumen
St James Boulevard, Newcastle Helix
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 5BZ

Dear Harborough District Council & Oadby & Wigston Borough Council,

The New Homes Accelerator

The New Homes Accelerator is a cross-government effort to accelerate large-scale housing projects across the country, bringing together experts from Homes England and central Government to support faster delivery. By leveraging government resources including Homes England, working closely with local authorities, and fostering collaboration with developers and landowners. The New Homes Accelerator will:

- identify and address specific thematic issues causing delays, such as coordination failures, regulatory obstacles, and local authority capacity constraints;
- deploy expert teams to provide on-the-ground support to local authorities, offering planning and enabling assistance to expedite the development process;
- utilise its resources to unblock and accelerate delivery on sites that are facing delays or not progressing as quickly as they could be;
- inform future reforms to housing and planning policy, where policy barriers to rapid housing delivery are identified.

Further information can be found at:

[New Homes Accelerator programme to unblock thousands of new homes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-homes-accelerator-programme)

Stretton Hall was included in a press statement made by Government on 29 August 2024 and is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-homes-accelerator-programme>

The New Homes Accelerator will quickly identify blockages, fix problems and support local authorities and developers to get shovels in the ground.

In respect to the Stretton Hall site Homes England and Urban&Civic can confirm the following:



- Joint promotion of the site capable of delivering up to 4,000 new homes on land South of Gartree Road following a Regulation 18 consultation response made in June 2024;
- The 10,000+ homes in the original New Homes Accelerator announcement refers to all potential sites within the programme (not just the Stretton Hall site);
- The Government is not proposing a 10,000+ home scheme at the Stretton Hall site or in its immediate vicinity and any previously recorded 10,000+ home scheme in a 'Call For Sites' process is being withdrawn;
- It is acknowledged that decisions will be made at the LPA level by HDC and OWBC in respect to the emerging Local Plan process.

Homes England and Urban&Civic would be pleased to discuss with both Local Authorities any opportunities to accelerate delivery, should the site progress to a draft allocation stage.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Goulding
Regional Development Director
For and on behalf of Homes England

