



The Rt Hon John Healey MP
Minister for Housing and Planning

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Cllr Neil Parkin
Leader of the Council
Adur District Council
Civic Centre, Ham Road
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West Sussex
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Dear Councillor Neil 16 August

Thank you for the letter of 10 July sent jointly from you, Cllr Mary Mears and Cllr Henry Smith about progress with the Shoreham Harbour Regeneration Project and highlighting issues around funding and SEEDA's and the HCA's involvement in the project. As you will know, I have also subsequently set out proposed changes to the provisional capital Growth Fund allocations for 2010/11.

Shoreham was given provisional Growth Point status in 2008 and the priority attached to Shoreham was confirmed by the Secretary of State in the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East (RSS) which confirmed Shoreham Harbour as a Strategic Development Area with a target of 10,000 net additions between 2006 and 2026 (subject to detailed studies).

As you know, SEEDA have already invested significant funding to support the development of the Shoreham Harbour proposals and, as part of the South East England Partnership Board, they will play a key role in implementing the RSS policies, working closely with other delivery partners such as the HCA. It will be for SEEDA and the HCA to determine the level of support they can offer going forward.

However, you will know that Sadiq Khan and I announced on 4 August that the Shoreham Harbour Regeneration scheme had been successful in its bid for Community Infrastructure Funding and has been awarded £5m. This will be a key project for supporting the growth plans at Shoreham Harbour.

I recognise that the proposed budgetary changes to the Growth Fund (which will be subject to consultation) will be challenging. However, getting house building across the country re-started and onto a recovery path is a key priority. The budgetary changes to the Growth Fund and other departmental investment programmes support the £1.5bn Housing Pledge to build an extra 20,000 affordable homes over this year and next. This will not only help provide new homes for people to rent and buy, but will also support jobs and the economy through the recession. As a result we are now investing £7.5bn over this year and next to deliver up to 112,000 affordable homes and around 15,000 private homes.

I announced on 27 July that 270 stalled developments across the country had now been shortlisted for a share of £925m Kickstart funding. This will help get building work on 22,400 homes back on track and create 20,000 jobs. 26 schemes in the South East have been shortlisted with nearly £110m available to them, which could deliver up to 2,326 homes. The Homes and Communities Agency will be carrying out a second bidding round for further kickstart funding, which will close at the end of September and I hope this will support further housebuilding in your area.

I am pleased to learn of the partnership working between the three authorities and the Shoreham Port Authority, and that you remain committed to this project. Your proposals to establish a formal Joint Committee and a Special Purpose Delivery Vehicle are a clear demonstration of this. My officials and those at the Government Office for the South East will continue to work with your officers and those at SEEDA, the HCA and other delivery partners to progress the conditions on Shoreham's Growth Point status and to take forward these important growth plans.

✓ I am copying this letter to Cllr Mary Mears, Leader at Brighton & Hove City Council and Cllr Henry Smith, Leader at West Sussex County Council.

Yours sincerely
J Healey

JOHN HEALEY MP

SIGNED ON BEHALF
OF THE MINISTER
AS DUTY MINISTER