

Issued at 1500 hours Tuesday 24th May 2016.

Statement on behalf of the Tortworth Estate Company.

In response to the West of England Joint Spatial Plan consultation on meeting future housing needs a Concept Document has now been submitted by Hunter Page Planning Ltd on behalf of the Tortworth Estate.

The Concept Document outlines a vision of the future whereby a new garden village is built at Buckover, South Gloucestershire. This is a unique opportunity fully addressing the recently revived Garden Village principles, whereby a new wholly sustainable community is planned and built to cater for today's living, working and leisure needs. There will be associated employment, health, education and retail facilities together with community facilities and open green spaces. The concept centres around a community of up to 3,000 homes.

This exciting prospect differs from much of the house-building that people have seen recently. It is not just an "add-on" to an existing urban area but instead uses a much called for approach which gives the opportunity to fully plan for a new community in a sustainable location – whilst addressing from the outset concerns over community infrastructure, transport links, road usage and volume house building and design.

The foundations of the Concept Document lay in demonstrating how the proposed new settlement will contribute to the three pillars of sustainable development: social, environmental and economic.

Now that the Concept Document has been submitted the Tortworth Estate are engaging with all stake holders, including local residents and adjoining land owners, Parish Councils, Estate tenants and South Gloucestershire Council.

Robert Moreton, of the Tortworth Estate said:

"The Tortworth Estate wishes to continue the successful stewardship of the land that has involved our family for over four hundred years. In conjunction with our farming, mineral and leisure interests we wish to ensure the future sustainability of the estate by creating a new community that has the added benefit of meeting local housing needs using the "garden village" approach. We are at a very early stage with this Concept Document but I can promise that we will work closely with everyone involved – especially local people – to ensure they are fully aware of our proposals and that their ideas and wishes can be fully taken into consideration."

Notes to Editors:-

This statement has been issued by Rob Garnham, Mediation in Planning Ltd, on behalf of the Tortworth Estate. For all further enquires please contact Rob directly on 07799 895929 or email rob@mediationinplanning.co.uk

Hunter Page Planning Ltd are an award winning planning company located in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Contact there is Mark Chadwick, on 01242 230066 or email at mark.Chadwick@hunterpage.net

Details of The West of England Joint Spatial Strategy can be found at:-

<https://www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk/consult.ti/JSPIO2015/consultationHome>