



Safeguard Green Belt protections in the London Plan

James is calling for changes to the 'London Plan' before it is finalised. The new Plan will set the policies which have to be applied by Bexley and other London boroughs when making planning decisions.

James has joined a group of Outer London Conservative MPs in writing to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government, Robert Jenrick, calling on him to secure protections for London's Green Belt and to scrap a planned review when he comes to finalising the Capital's Strategic Planning document – the London Plan.

The MPs have expressed concern that a planned review of London's Green Belt in the context of the 'wider South East' is inconsistent with national policy & risks undermining development on brownfield land first. The letter also calls for changes to protect against back garden development, the removal of prescriptive policies for 'car free' developments which risk displacing parking pressures onto neighbouring streets and an easing of rigid protections for industrial land which may be suitable for housing.

The London Plan has reached its final stages following its publication by the Mayor of London and a public examination by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. Robert Jenrick now has to give his views on the policies proposed by the Mayor which are intended to guide planning decisions in Bexley & other London boroughs for years to come.



News in brief

- James visited Beths Grammar School to hear the school's plans to improve the provision for its 'Sixth Form' and other students following the growth in numbers studying at the School.
- James spoke at an event organised by the Exeter University Politics Society fielding questions from students & reflecting on his political journey from his studies at Exeter to becoming an MP.



Home Office Role

James has been appointed Minister of State for Security as part of the Prime Minister's recent reshuffle. In this role James will work with the Home Secretary on national security, counter-terrorism policy, oversight of the Security Service (MI5) and combatting serious organised crime. James previously served as a Minister at the Home Office between 2010 and 2016.

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