

# RURAL HOUSING STRATEGIES

## National Strategy

The Government is helping local councils and developers work with communities to plan and build better places to live for everyone. Part of this process is The Neighbourhood Plan.

**Sustainability:** [The National Planning Policy Framework of 2012](#) directs Neighbourhood Plans to support sustainable development, support sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new ones. "Sustainable development" defined as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

**Non-negotiable:** [The Housing and Planning Bill 2015/2016](#) had its second reading in The Lords in January 2016. In her speech Baroness Williams of Trafford included this important message to us "**Local plans are now fundamental, and people expect them. Having one in place is now non-negotiable**".

## Regional Strategy

[Herefordshire Core Strategy](#) supports The National Strategy. A modified version was accepted in October 2015.

### Key points Herefordshire Core Strategy

1. Rural Housing Target 5,300.
2. New builds and permissions granted since 2011 are included in the 5,300.
3. Neighbourhood Plans to identify minimum levels of new development.
4. New developments to be focused within or adjacent to existing settlements.
5. Neighbourhood Plan growth targets are only indicative, local evidence and environmental factors will determine scale of development.