

**Johnston, Charles**

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**From:** Connolly, Trish on behalf of localplan  
**Sent:** 06 December 2013 12:38  
**To:** Johnston, Charles  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Local Development Plan - Question 9

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 December 2013 12:00  
**To:** localplan  
**Subject:** Proposed Local Development Plan - Question 9

Dear Sirs,

With reference to Question 9 of the consultation on the proposed Local Development Plan, I am in favour of the adoption of the alternative option, namely that the figure of 25% for affordable housing should be reviewed in the light of the current economic downturn.

At present the development of many allocated sites in the Borders is not possible, because developers believe that the risks outweigh the potential financial rewards. This means that over the last few years very little housing development has taken place.

It would undoubtedly stimulate developers' interest immediately, if the Council were to agree that for a limited period the affordable housing requirement would be reduced to, say, 10%, with annual upward reviews thereafter. This would alter the risk/reward balance and is likely to ensure that at least some affordable housing gets built within the next few years. Moreover, the additional construction activity would benefit local businesses.

I must declare an interest, as my wife and I own a development site in Broughton. However, I hope that the Council will consider the idea on its merits, from the viewpoint of the general good of the Borders.

Yours faithfully,

C.G. Lewin  
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