BNP Paribas Real Estate responds to the Government announcement regarding the National Planning Policy Framework

The UK’s Planning Minister, Greg Clark MP Following, has today’s announced the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

BNP Paribas Real Estate’s Head of London Planning, Nicola Forster, says: “The NPPF is well received providing a comprehensive and concise framework which replaces a raft of policy documents.

“It is hoped that this new policy framework will deliver development more expediently where other changes to the planning system have failed and made the system more complicated which has slowed development down.

“The NPPF includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development. It will be interesting to see how this works in practice in terms of how it is applied through local planning policy and for determining planning applications.

“With the transfer of power to local authorities to determine their own housing and employment land requirements and neighbourhood planning, the question will be how these provisions interact and whether collectively they will deliver development more quickly.”
Sam Blake, Director of Land Agency at BNP Paribas Real Estate, adds: “There are words around the key thrust of the document, the ‘presumption in favour of sustainable development’, which I expect will be jumped upon by both sides, those pro and anti development, particularly in relation to, where plans are out of date or not relevant, permitting refusals based on ‘adverse impacts’.

“More conservative Local Authorities without a plan (and there are many) may just rely on citing more subjective areas, for example design or overlooking, to prevent development and in so doing keep the Nimbyism of recent decades going strong.”

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About BNP Paribas Real Estate
BNP Paribas Real Estate is a leading international real estate provider, and the 2nd player in Europe, in terms of results. It offers to its clients a comprehensive range of services that span the entire real estate lifecycle: property development, transaction, consulting, valuation, property management and investment management.
BNP Paribas Real Estate has local expertise on a global scale through its presence in 30 countries (15 wholly owned subsidiaries) across Europe, India and Middle East with 3,300 employees in about 150 offices. BNP Paribas Real Estate is a subsidiary of BNP Paribas, one of the world’s six strongest banks in the world according to Standard & Poor’s (rated AA- by Standard & Poor’s i.e. 3rd rating level on a scale of 22).
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