

Beau Pre,
Rue du Creux Baillot,
St Ouen,
JE3 2DR

To whom it may concern.

I am writing in support of the rezoning of part of field O622 and field 785 for affordable and social housing in the Parish of St Ouen.

The rezoning of field 622 and 785 will enable further homes to be provided for both young and old alike and help meet the need already identified by the Parish and Housing Minister.

The Parish currently owns a total of 39 units of accommodation on what were two green field sites and experience to date has shown that this form of housing is much in demand.

As a social housing provider, the Parish and those living in it, fully understand that there are occasions when it is necessary to rezone land for housing including land for social and affordable housing. It is also well known that many people with close ties to the Parish have benefited from land being rezoned for housing over the last 40 years.

Furthermore Parishioners' have recently confirmed their support for field 622 to be rezoned for sheltered housing thereby adding to the stock already owned by the Parish.

I acknowledge the Island must protect green fields and where possible limit development to existing or brown field sites, however St Ouen is predominantly a rural Parish with a distinct lack of sites which would fit into the category.

This is borne out by the actions of the Planning department, who over many years has consistently supported and approved the development of first time buyer homes and sheltered accommodation on agricultural land, within the general area of the Parish hall and community centre. We now have a thriving village with good public transport links and a range of businesses including a Doctors surgery, pharmacy, hairdresser, local pub and food hall all providing the essential services required by our more mature residents.

The Parish working closely with the Planning and Housing department has given considerable thought to where new homes could be built and in particular, how any new development could fit in with existing facilities.

Both sites are able to deliver additional housing, however in my view field 622 is best placed to provide additional over 55's accommodation as it is on the edge of existing development, within walking distance of the Village area and close to shops and other facilities all of which can be reached by using established footpaths.

Although I accept, those fortunate enough to own homes in our Parish and elsewhere may wish to preserve open fields close to where they live, there is a need to provide additional homes in our Parish. If we are to address the needs of a growing and ageing population suitable homes must be provided.

I therefore fully support the Minister's proposal to review the Island Plan and in particular rezone fields 622 and 785.

Yours sincerely,

James Reed. Deputy of St Ouen.