COUNCILLOR JOHN CLANCY
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

THE COUNCIL HOUSE
VICTORIA SQUARE
BIRMINGHAM
B1 1BB

Tel: [redacted]
Fax: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]@birmingham.gov.uk

Our ref : JC/152rjh

9 June 2016

Brandon Lewis MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning
Department for Communities and Local Government
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Dear Brandon

Birmingham Development Plan 2031

I acknowledge receipt of your direction letter dated 26 May 2016, and would like to request an opportunity to meet as I am very keen to work with Ministers to address any concerns that have led to the issuing of the direction.

It is critical for us to be able to move forward with the Birmingham Development Plan if we are to deliver the much needed housing and economic growth in the city and wider West Midlands Combined Authority.

I appreciate that much of the debate around the Birmingham Development Plan has been focused on the release of Green Belt, but it is important to highlight that the Plan is a predominantly brownfield strategy and has sought to maximise development within the existing urban area.

In the context of our need to deliver much needed housing and employment land to meet the needs of Birmingham's growing population, I am sure you will appreciate my concern that Government has chosen to make this direction in spite of the positive outcome of the independent planning inquiry, but you have my commitment to work with Government to resolve any issues in order to minimise any delays to the adoption of the Plan

I would be grateful if I could arrange for myself and [redacted] Strategic Director, Economy (Interim), to meet with you and your team at your earliest convenience.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Councillor John Clancy

Leader of the Council

CC: *Councillor Ian Ward, Deputy Leader*
Mark Rogers, Chief Executive
[redacted]*, Strategic Director, Economy (Interim)*