



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

**Rt Hon Christopher Pincher MP**  
*Minister of State for Housing*

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local  
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Our Ref:10564361

Caroline Dinenage MP  
House of Commons  
London  
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22 March 2021

Dear Caroline,

Thank you for your email of 5 March, on behalf of your constituent Jonathan McDermott of 4 Horton Road, Gosport, Hampshire in response to my letter of 3 March 2021 concerning pre-application advice and a point of clarification.

I should be clear that pre-application advice cannot pre-empt the democratic decision-making process or a particular outcome. However, as stated in my previous letter, pre-application advice can be used as a material consideration to be taken into account and given weight in the planning application process.

This is set out in our Planning Practice Guidance, paragraph 011, reference ID 20-0111-20140306 available online at the following address: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/before-submitting-an-application>.

I would like to thank you again for writing to me and I hope your constituent finds the above information useful.

**RT HON CHRISTOPHER PINCHER MP**

