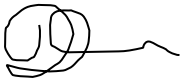


At this stage of plan-making, the Council has not concluded whether exceptional circumstances exist to justify Green Belt release. Nevertheless, of the four strategy options identified, only those which would involve Green Belt release (Options 2 – 4) would be able to accommodate all of Rochford's identified needs within its own area.

As set out in national policy, once established, Green Belt boundaries should only be altered where exceptional circumstances are fully evidenced and justified. Before concluding that exceptional circumstances exist to justify changes to Green Belt boundaries, local planning authorities must, inter alia, explore whether neighbouring authorities could accommodate some of the identified need for development.

As an authority sharing a marine boundary with Rochford, and to inform an assessment of whether such exceptional circumstances do exist, I would be grateful if you could advise me of whether any of Rochford's identified development needs could be accommodated in your authority area, either now or in future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Goodman', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Daniel Goodman
Team Leader – Strategic Planning
Rochford District Council