

**Councillor Roger Cox  
Leader of the Council**

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Dear Kit Malthouse MP,

### **AMBITIOUS GROWTH IN OxCAM CORRIDOR**

Thank you for your letter dated 26 July 2018 and the continued dialogue regarding the proposed expressway.

I would welcome clarification for the justification of the one million new homes proposed across the corridor and what, if any, geographical distribution is expected. I wish also to clarify whether the one million new homes by 2050 includes the existing ambitious planned housing growth, particularly for the Oxfordshire authorities, which have signed up to a Housing and Growth Deal (2018).

Turning to your invitation, we are currently partway through the examination into Part 2 of our Local Plan with a timetable that seeks to adopt the plan in December 2018. This timetable accords with the milestones set out in the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal agreed between the partner Oxfordshire authorities and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to accelerate the delivery of housing and thus helping to ensure we get “early” deliverability.

The timescales we are working to do not appear to align with the expected announcement of the OxCam corridor, now delayed to Autumn 2018. Until the route of the expressway is known, I am surprised that your invitation for the identification of potential new settlements has been raised.

We are keen to continue working with colleagues to deliver the growth deal and look forward to preparing the Joint Statutory Spatial Plan for Oxfordshire, an avenue through which new settlements might be more appropriately explored.

I seek an assurance from you that Government would not impose new settlements and I would welcome further opportunities for engagement in the process and for further consultation on the Cambridge – Milton Keynes – Oxford Corridor.

Yours sincerely,

*Roger Cox*

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