

# COMMUNITY PLANNING ALLIANCE

## MANIFESTO

We have 570 UK campaign groups signed-up on our map.

We call for a planning system that:

- gives communities power to influence;
- better protects green spaces, blue spaces and wildlife
- puts the right developments in the right places.



[www.communityplanningalliance.org](http://www.communityplanningalliance.org)



## 1. Give communities power to influence

Communities, and their requirements, are typically ignored. Planning is done to us, rather than with us. We call for:

- A mandatory “Community Participation Test” in local plan examinations.
- Mandatory consultation standards, to include The Gunning Principles and The Seven Principles of Public Life.
- Stop planning by appeal. The Housing Delivery Test, five-year supply and presumption in favour of development to be dropped.

## 2. Go beyond the Environment Bill: even *greater* protections

Thousands of acres of green space (urban & rural) are lost every year to housing, infrastructure, renewables & biofuels, critically impacting nature’s recovery. Our rivers, lakes & seas are polluted. We call for:

- Greater weight to the principle of avoiding harm, and greater financial support for enforcement<sup>1</sup> & training. Moratoriums on building when there is harm.
- The appointment of a government Land Use Strategy Tzar<sup>2</sup> and the development of a land-use register.
- Revision of the Biodiversity Net Gain Metric as per CPA recommendations, including to give farmland greater protection and add a ‘Human Interaction Factor’<sup>3</sup>.

## 3. The right developments in the right places

Brownfield land is not prioritised, new builds are unsustainable, and 735,000 homes sit empty while the housing waiting list approaches 2 million. Road building is the option of choice and air pollution is harming millions. We call for:

- Up-to-date housing targets, tailored locally, and a shift in policy focus to meet need instead of demand, with significant financial support for social housing<sup>4</sup>.
  - Green transport<sup>5</sup> and desirable outcomes<sup>6</sup> to be incentivised and funded. Green homes<sup>7</sup> to be mandated
  - Taxation for holiday homes, second homes and empty homes, and road-pricing/workplace charging to be introduced.
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#### Footnotes

1. And insistence on adherence to the Green Claims Code [The Green Claims Code checklist - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
2. To pull together all the strands of government that are operating in silos with competing pressures on land that include growing food; providing habitat for wildlife; biofuels, renewables, development, offsetting.
3. To account for damage to neighbouring habitat by domestic pets and air, noise & light pollution
4. [A vision for social housing, from Shelter - Shelter England](#) 3.1m over 20 years, providing a return on investment in 39 years.
5. Ensure that houses and public/active transport go hand in hand and that the NPPF, funding and S106 payments prioritise this and prevent car dependent development. Redirect the £27bn RIS2 road programme into sustainable transport.
6. Brownfield use and refurbishment. Provide grants and support to improve existing buildings
7. Solar panels, permeable surfaces, grey water, insulation and heat pumps on new builds, especially industrial buildings