



South East Plan dodges impact of immigration

650,000 extra homes required in next 20 years ... but Plan fails to mention the impact of immigration

The Government's South East Plan, published yesterday, sets out how it intends to deliver 654,000 new homes between now and 2026 – but does not even mention that immigration is a main cause of demand. It reveals that the number of households in the region is projected to grow by 39,000 every year for 25 years.

On the Government's own forecast, 40 per cent of the new households will be a result of immigration.

In the South East, 40 per cent of the new housing is expected to be on green field sites.

Commenting on the plan, Frank Field MP and Nicholas Soames MP, Co-Chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration said:

“This is a huge number of new homes in an already overcrowded part of England. Housing is where the present massive levels of immigration directly affect people's lives. Given immigration is the largest single factor in the growth of households, and the only one which the Government can directly influence, the Government should have highlighted this in its Plan. The failure to do makes a nonsense of the Report, and is a clear failure to be honest and level with people in the South East.”

Notes to editors:

- 1) The South East Plan was published by the Department for Communities and Local Government. Their press release can be viewed here: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1222429>
- 2) The South East Plan itself can be downloaded here: <http://www.gos.gov.uk/gose/planning/regionalPlanning/815640/>
- 3) “Balanced Migration – A new approach to controlling immigration” is available to download at <http://www.balancedmigration.com/>

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