



Ensign Group Limited

PRESS RELEASE

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Ensign resubmits Buckton Fields proposals to Daventry

Ensign Group Ltd. has formally resubmitted its outline planning application for Buckton Fields to Daventry District Council.

Despite having been recommended for approval by Daventry District Council planning officers, the planning committee resolved to refuse planning permission for the 1,050 homes scheme in July 2011.

Against a backdrop of existing strong local planning policy support for Buckton Fields and a lack of any technical constraints to developing the site, in the intervening period publication of the Government's draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has further strengthened the planning case for consent to be granted to deliver the Buckton Fields scheme.

Andrew Wilson, Director, Ensign Group Ltd., clarifies: "The draft NPPF sets out in no uncertain terms that the planning system must play a proactive role in delivering long term sustainable development. In doing so the Government clearly indicates that local authorities should '*approve development proposals that accord with statutory plans without delay*'."

"We do have the option of submitting an appeal to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government against the Council's resolution; however the publication and content of the draft NPPF led to our decision to resubmit and give Daventry the opportunity to reconsider our proposals in this updated planning context."

Separate to this, Ensign Group has also taken the opportunity to revise its outline planning application for Buckton Fields East so it reflects those amendments made to the application for the overall site (referred to as Buckton Fields). This includes a reduction in the total number of proposed dwellings from 500 to 376.

Revisions to the original outline planning application for Buckton Fields East, together with the application for the overall site, have now both been formally submitted to, and registered by, Daventry District Council. The Council will now be undertaking a formal consultation process on each of these applications.

Members of the public are invited to feed back their comments on the revised application to Daventry District Council directly so they can be taken into consideration by the Planning Committee when making its decision. The applications are available to view in full at: www.daventrydc.gov.uk

The registration numbers for **Buckton Fields (DA/2011/0666)** and **Buckton Fields East (DA/2008/0500)** must be quoted on all feedback sent to Daventry District Council regarding the separate outline planning applications.

– ENDS –

For all media enquiries, please contact

Beth Motley at Camarque PR, on behalf of Ensign Group Ltd.

T: 01242 577277 F: 01242 527277

E: bmotley@camarquepr.com

Notes to Editors:

1. **Buckton Fields** is situated on the northern side of Northampton, within the District of Daventry, approximately 4.5km from the town centre. The indicative development proposals now comprise a mixed-use development of approximately 1,050 houses, approximately 1.6 hectares of employment use, a residential care home accommodating up to 70 beds, local facilities including a primary school, a park and ride facility of 500 spaces, public open space and associated community infrastructure.
2. **Buckton Fields East** is a site which broadly corresponds with an area of land adjacent to Harborough Road referred to as Phase One in the outline planning application for Buckton Fields.
3. **Ensign Group Ltd** is a subsidiary of Martin Grant Homes - a privately owned company, founded in 1978 with a reputation for constructing high quality homes and apartments throughout the Home Counties. The company has expanded its operations throughout the south of England, building a reputation as a major force in both strategic land acquisition and new home development.

Maintaining their original philosophy each Ensign property is meticulously planned and professionally built to the highest possible standard. Attention to detail and strict supervision combine to produce individually designed homes that complement the existing environment and surroundings. www.martingranthomes.co.uk