



**NEWS RELEASE – 21 September, 2012**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Go ahead for exciting new development in Calne**

A Government inspector has given the go-ahead to a proposal from Hills Homes for more than 200 houses in Calne.

The outline planning permission is for up to 200 quality homes off Oxford Road on the edge of town.

The development will meet an identified need for new housing for the growing town.

Nick King, group director – Hills Homes, said: “We have worked hard to come up with an appropriate and sustainable planning proposal.

“We have also gone out of our way to engage with local people to ensure they were aware of the proposals and we could answer their concerns.

“The Government-appointed inspector listened carefully to the information supplied from all sides and we are delighted he has endorsed our proposal wholeheartedly.

“This development will not only bring much-needed and attractive new homes to Calne it will bring into use fallow land and allow landscaping and road improvements which will benefit everyone. On top of this it will generate significant jobs for the community.

“As part of the planning agreement we will also be providing additional benefits to the community in the way of affordable housing and subsidies to the public transport network as well as contributions to enhance education and leisure.”

The inspector was appointed after Wiltshire Council’s failure to decide on the application within the time allowed.

His report found that: “Looking at the planning balance, the proposals are acceptable in landscape, townscape and traffic terms. The advantages of the scheme in providing housing to meet a need identified on a firm evidence base, as well as affordable housing, and in addressing a shortfall in housing land available now, carry great weight. With regard to the presumption in favour of sustainable development, it is concluded that the adverse impacts of granting permission are very limited and do not significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits.”



The decision is for outline planning permission. A detailed proposal will have to be submitted and agreed by planners before any construction can take place. No date has been set for that.

A copy of the appeal decision can be found here: [http://www.hills-group.co.uk/consult/documents/OxfordRd\\_Calne\\_Planning\\_Decision.pdf](http://www.hills-group.co.uk/consult/documents/OxfordRd_Calne_Planning_Decision.pdf)

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Notes to editors:

- Hills Property Limited, through its popular Hills Homes brand, has established a strong reputation for building high quality homes on carefully selected sites in Wiltshire and neighbouring areas – from major developments in large towns to smaller ones in rural towns and villages. [www.hills-homes.co.uk](http://www.hills-homes.co.uk)
- The company is a winner of the 2010 LABC National 'Best small housing development' Award and the 2012 LABC West of England 'Best social or affordable housing' Award.
- In addition to its own developments, Hills Property is also a successful contract builder.
- Hills Property Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Hills Group Limited, a privately owned family company established in 1900

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