



Press release

Government confirms Langarth is to be part of its Garden Community programme

27 June 2019

A successful bid by Cornwall Council for the vibrant new community to be built west of Truro to be recognised under the government's Garden Community Programme has been confirmed today.

Building homes for local people is a key priority for this Council and we've pledged to bring forward a high quality housing scheme at Langarth and to take the lead in its design and how it will be delivered over the coming years.

Cornwall Council cabinet portfolio holder for economy and planning Bob Egerton said: "This government recognition will help us in our commitment to bring forward and co-ordinate a high quality housing scheme at Langarth, to establish a community rather than a series of housing estates."

The Government's Garden Communities Programme sets out a vision for high-quality place making to build communities with local character, strong services and integrated and accessible transport and green spaces for the benefit of residents.

It means that the Langarth project will receive a tailored package of Government support to help deliver the garden community. This could include a commitment to unblock obstacles to progressing the development, support from Homes England to help access investment or loans, or funding for dedicated skilled staff.

It is the latest recognition of the Council's commitment to delivering high quality, well designed homes which reflect a strong local vision. It follows on from the confirmation earlier this month of £47 million of government funding to build the Northern Access Road which will encourage walking and cycling. The £47 million to build it will release other funds for providing the infrastructure needed to support the housing and workspace that Cornwall needs.

Cornwall Council cabinet portfolio holder for economy and planning Bob Egerton said: "It's important that the Langarth development has been granted Garden Community status because it underlines the style of development we want to see achieved. It sends a clear message to developers and the community about the quality of the new homes and infrastructure. This status complements the funding for the northern access road. It's vitally important that we develop attractive, sustainable places where local people will love to live."

The Council is working with the community, local stakeholders and developers on the Masterplan for the development of 2,700 new homes and community facilities on different parcels of land at Langarth.

Cornwall Councillor for Threemilestone and Gloweth, Dulcie Tudor, who is chair of the local community stakeholder panel said: "Langarth already has planning permissions for 2,700 houses and now developers will have to take into account Langarth's Garden Village status and ensure that community benefits, including more open green spaces, trees, walking and cycle ways are delivered.

I am also comforted that the Government's own definition of a Garden Village includes a settlement with its own facilities – such as shops, schools and transport links, and as the name suggests, plans must include natural environments for local communities.

When the Government announced funding for 5 new Garden Towns in March, the Minister of State for Housing Kit Malthouse specifically mentioned neighbouring communities when he said, '..these new towns will be vibrant communities where everyone, including neighbouring communities, can benefit from new infrastructure.'

As Cornwall Councillor for the neighbouring community of Threemilestone and Gloweth, it is this final point that is most important to me. I and the Stakeholder Panel will be closely monitoring what is being planned to make sure that is what is delivered at Langarth."

Note to editors

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