To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what advice he has given to the Planning Inspectorate on judging whether local authority assessments of future housing requirements comply with the National Planning Policy Framework.

Nicholas Boles (Grantham and Stamford, Conservative)

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment Practice Guidance August 2007, remains in place pending the outcome of the Government's review and can still be used to identify future housing requirements where relevant to the National Planning Policy Framework. We plan to publish guidance on assessing future housing need in the summer.

In addition, Ministers meet with the Planning Inspectorate from time to time to discuss matters in relation to planning to ensure a consistent approach is being taken.