



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Baroness Taylor of Stevenage

*Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing
and Local Government*

2 Marsham Street
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Rt Hon Sir Alec Shelbrooke MP
House of Commons
London
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 July 2025

Dear 

Thank you for your email of 18 June on behalf of your constituents in Bickerton, North Yorkshire, regarding the expansion of North Fields Farm.

As I hope you will appreciate, because of the role of this Department and the Secretary of State in the planning system, I am unable to comment on specific cases. However, I hope that you find the following information on agricultural permitted development rights to be of interest.

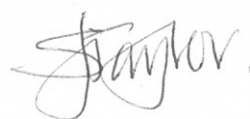
Under nationally set permitted development rights, farmers can undertake development on their farms, including works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building or structure; or any excavation or engineering operations which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture.

The rights, set out in Part 6 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (GPDO), are subject to certain limitations and conditions to minimise their potential impacts. Any proposals for larger scale developments on farms will require an application for planning permission.

While the Government has no current plans to further restrict the ability of farmers to undertake development for agricultural purposes, we will continue to keep changes to permitted development rights under review.

Thank you for writing on this important matter.

Yours ever,



BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government