

1. I am directed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to say that he has considered the report of the Inspector, Mr. F.H. Meered Young, B.A., B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., on the local inquiry into the appeal by your client, Mr. F.M. Wilcock, under section 16 of the Town & Country Planning Act, 1947, (now section 25 of the Town & Country Planning Act, 1962) against the decision of the Worthing Borough Council, to refuse planning permission for the residential development of land described in the heading to this letter.

2. The Inspector in his report, concluded that there was continuous development along so much of this south coast that in order to relieve the monotony of this development, if for nothing else, it was most desirable to preserve the breaks there were in it, such as this one. Because there was so much pressure to live in this coastal strip, this should not, in his view, be an excuse for destroying these gaps or be a reason for finding room in this coastal area for all who sought it. He considered that all of this particular gap should continue to be preserved as a public open space and agricultural land. He recommended that the appeal be dismissed.

3. The Minister agrees with the Inspector's conclusions as to the desirability of preserving open gaps along this part of the South Coast and with his recommendation and for that reason he hereby dismisses your client's appeal.