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14th February 2007

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Dear John,

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Stakeholder engagement in the ASCCUE project

I have the pleasure of enclosing a report on the stakeholder engagement process and comment on our experiences as part of the ASCCUE project.

I should start by extending our congratulations to you and your research teams on completing and excellent piece of research. Over the past year or so the issue of climate change adaptation has shot to the top of the policy and political agendas along with climate change mitigation. The research and its outcomes are therefore particularly timely in contributing to these debates.

The Town & Country Planning Association's involvement as lead stakeholder stemmed from a belief that adaptation was an essential part of any response to climate change, and that spatial planning needs to play a central role. We hoped that the research findings would enable us to better understand complex relationships with other policy agendas, including housing, community development and engagement and climate change mitigation. We are pleased to say that our hopes have been realised.

As a direct result of the research and the involvement of the stakeholder steering group members we are now in the process of preparing a guide for planners, developers, architects and urban designers, entitled 'climate change adaptation by design'. The aim of the guide is to provide practical advice on how to take climate change into account in planning, development and regeneration processes. The guide, supported by