



Broadcast

The offline periodical from www.ukagriculture.com

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Returning to our roots?

Today, www.ukagriculture.com proposes a novel and sustainable solution to the UK's housing crisis:

D i f f u s e D e v e l o p m e n t

Britain seems to have had a housing crisis for as long as many people can remember. Changing demographics and household structure have conspired, with inadequate supply, to limit the availability of homes and force prices to unaffordable levels for many.

Almost everyone has a view as to what they don't want but there seems little consensus on a solution to which society at large can agree.

Now www.ukagriculture.com proposes the novel concept of "diffuse development" - a sustainable solution to the UK's housing crisis.

Diffuse development is the provision of small clusters of very low impact housing in farmyards throughout the country. The houses, built of local materials, will be discretely placed and subject to the planning condition that they are made available for letting and not sold outside the farm business.

Speaking for www.ukagriculture.com, David Uren commented, "diffuse development provides a number of important environmental benefits through the use of renewable energy at the local level, sustainable water use and improved flood management. It also avoids blighting our countryside with homes that are located in large blocks far from the workplace where they destroy the natural environment and put undue pressure on the existing infrastructure".

Living Countryside

website: www.ukagriculture.com

Farming and the countryside, what's going on and why
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He went on to add “unlike many green schemes that lower energy use, diffuse development helps to grow local communities and their businesses by providing affordable housing close to the place of work. It’s a win - win situation”.

Diffuse development can be easily implemented by the adoption of a more flexible approach by planners to the use of farmyards. It has the particular advantage of providing homes on land with minimal value thus helping to lower house prices and improve social and occupational mobility. It is easy to envisage 250,000 new homes being built throughout the UK with minimal dissent.

“For much of the last six thousand years, most of Britain’s population has lived sustainably in small rural communities centred around the farm; its time we learnt from the past and looked forward” said David. “Civilisation began with agriculture - its time we returned to our roots”.

Notes to Editors:

This briefing is available at www.ukagriculture.com/press

The full report is available at www.ukagriculture.com/diffuse_development.cfm

The www.ukagriculture.com website is produced by Living Countryside, a farm grown organisation that explains agriculture and works to protect and improve the countryside. In September 2006, Living Countryside was registered as a charity.

Production on the www.ukagriculture.com website commenced in 1999, since when it has become one of the countryside’s most prominent resources.