

COVER NOTE

Bewley Homes PLC v Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities & Anor [2024] EWHC 1166 (Admin)

The case concerned the interpretation of NPPF 81 in the 2021 NPPF which contained the same wording as what is now paragraph 85 of the 2024 NPPF in relation to “*Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development.*”

The Court concluded the paragraph refers to significant weight being placed on the objective of ‘the need to support economic growth and productivity’ (paragraph 43) and it did not direct or suggest to a decisionmaker that significant weight should be given to any economic benefit (paragraph 48).