

BBC Daily Politics Show Poll

Fieldwork : December 6th-7th 2006

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q.1 A government report this week suggested that planning restrictions for building on Britain's 'green-belt' - the rural areas surrounding some of our major towns and cities - should be relaxed, to allow for more housing and commercial developments. Please state whether you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: All respondents

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region							
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	18-34	35-54	55+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scot-land
Unweighted base	1010	454	556	94	204	234	183	154	141	298	417	295	329	254	177	250	270	258	252	142	88
Weighted base	1010	485	525	111	172	202	172	152	203	282	373	354	252	293	212	253	269	263	248	141	89
<u>The countryside is important because of its natural beauty and should be protected from development</u>																					
Agree	910	428	481	94	158	181	157	131	189	252	338	320	226	273	186	225	234	239	228	127	82
	90%	88%	92%	84%	92%	90%	91%	86%	94%	89%	90%	90%	90%	93%	87%	89%	87%	91%	92%	90%	92%
Disagree	88	47	41	15	13	18	12	18	13	28	29	31	24	18	22	23	31	22	18	12	5
	9%	10%	8%	13%	7%	9%	7%	12%	6%	10%	8%	9%	10%	6%	11%	9%	12%	8%	7%	9%	6%
Don't know	13	10	3	3	1	3	3	3	-	3	6	3	2	2	4	4	4	3	3	2	2
	1%	2%	1%	2%	*	2%	2%	2%	-	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
<u>It is more important to build new homes, commercial centres and other infrastructure than it is to protect the 'green belt' from development</u>																					
Agree	264	130	134	42	46	48	30	37	60	88	78	98	57	71	53	82	77	71	68	31	17
	26%	27%	26%	38%	27%	24%	17%	25%	30%	31%	21%	28%	23%	24%	25%	32%	29%	27%	27%	22%	19%
Disagree	713	341	372	65	121	148	139	105	135	186	287	239	190	216	150	158	184	185	173	103	67
	71%	70%	71%	59%	71%	73%	81%	69%	66%	66%	77%	68%	75%	74%	71%	62%	68%	70%	70%	74%	75%
Don't know	34	15	19	4	4	6	3	9	8	8	8	17	6	6	9	13	8	7	7	6	5
	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%	6%	4%	3%	2%	5%	2%	2%	4%	5%	3%	3%	3%	4%	6%
<u>People who live in 'green belt' areas should not be allowed to stand in the way of new houses, commercial and business development if there is a real need for these</u>																					
Agree	376	182	194	42	66	76	63	57	71	107	140	128	93	114	85	84	94	96	104	55	27
	37%	38%	37%	37%	38%	38%	37%	38%	35%	38%	37%	36%	37%	39%	40%	33%	35%	36%	42%	39%	31%
Disagree	598	288	310	69	100	121	105	86	117	170	225	203	153	167	127	152	165	160	136	81	57
	59%	59%	59%	63%	59%	60%	61%	57%	58%	60%	60%	57%	60%	57%	60%	60%	61%	61%	55%	57%	64%
Don't know	36	15	21	-	5	5	4	9	14	5	8	23	7	12	-	16	10	8	9	5	5
	4%	3%	4%	-	3%	2%	2%	6%	7%	2%	2%	6%	3%	4%	-	7%	4%	3%	4%	3%	5%

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Weighted base	1010	485	525	111	172	202	172	152	203	282	373	354	252	293	212	253	269	263	248	141	89
The government only cares about people who live in towns and cities - they do not care about people living in the countryside																					
Agree	452 45%	224 46%	228 43%	42 37%	59 34%	83 41%	80 46%	71 47%	117 58%	101 36%	163 44%	188 53%	98 39%	133 45%	96 45%	125 50%	113 42%	121 46%	97 39%	83 59%	37 42%
Disagree	505 50%	237 49%	268 51%	64 57%	109 64%	110 54%	80 46%	72 47%	71 35%	173 61%	189 51%	143 40%	146 58%	147 50%	103 49%	108 43%	137 51%	125 48%	143 57%	50 35%	50 56%
Don't know	53 5%	24 5%	30 6%	6 5%	4 2%	9 4%	12 7%	9 6%	15 7%	9 3%	21 6%	23 7%	8 3%	13 4%	13 6%	19 8%	19 7%	17 6%	9 4%	8 5%	2 2%