

The Housing Forum Working Parties 2008/2009

Group 1 - "Working through Housing Market Changes"

Chair – John Stewart, Director of Economic Affairs, The Home Builders Federation

Admin – Zoe Brinnand

Advisor – Shelagh Grant

- Assessing the medium to longer term implications for housing supply and demand of the current market downturn, given the Government's housing supply targets
- Sources of land supply, the role of land owners and the role of the planning system
- Development viability and the cumulative burden of regulation
- Role of central initiatives and partnerships
- Assessing the capacity of the private development industry and what policy measures it will require to lift output?
- Are new 'regeneration' models now needed, opening up scope for wider joint ventures?
- Assessing the financial capacity and risks for the RSL sector and its future investment strategies.
- Assessing the potential role of other social housing providers (e.g. local authorities)
- The likely tenure mix of housing demand (home-ownership, social, shared and intermediate tenures, private rented sector).
- Assessing the likely medium-term shape of the mortgage market and its implications for demand (e.g. first-time buyers, buy-to-let)

Group 2 - "Designing in Quality in Housing-led Mixed Use, New Build and Regeneration"

Chair – Patrick Hammill, Divisional Director, Levitt Bernstein

Admin – Rhian Hughes

Advisors – Colm Quinn, Krystyna Blackburn

- Rewarding quality – commercial and community benefits and continuing with Callcutt themes
- Factors that make exemplar schemes work.
- Complexity of mixed use design and impact on neighbourhoods.
- Identifying resilience in materials and concepts and introducing appropriate products.
- Involvement of assessors and warranty providers.
- Testing the consumer – what is the link between quality, sustainability and value - what is of most interest to consumers?

Group 3 – "Sustainable Housing Solutions in Major Regeneration and Refurbishment Schemes"

Chair – Ian Burnett, CEO, Wates Living Space
Admin – Rhian Hughes
Advisor – Colm Quinn

- Effective approaches in procurement, asset management and approval for sustainable refurbishment and the overall role in regeneration.
- Practical approaches for asset management particularly considering major, long term regeneration and remodeling schemes.
- Assessing solutions relating to insulation, energy generation, rainwater, water usage and waste, with particular reference to two major regeneration projects
- Taking the customer with us – customer benefits and ease practicality/ flexibility in use.
- Opportunities for both utility companies and housing developers to provide sustainable solutions

Group 4 - “A Future for Land”

Chair – Barry Munday, Deputy Chairman of The Housing Forum, Consultant with PRP Architects
Admin – Zoe Brinnand
Advisor – Krystyna Blackburn

- Quantity and Availability. Assessing what is there.
- Location. Testing the assumption that there is sufficient land in the right places to deliver homes for current and future markets.
- Sustainability. Using the “The Housing Forum’s Code of Practice” for 3D master planning to assess sustainability.
- Affordability. Are rising costs of development and infrastructure impeding progress? If so, how and when should these be eased or other ways found to make them affordable?
- Procurement. Are current procurement models delivering the best design quality?
- Delivery mechanisms. Assessing the consequences of high dependency on S.106 and impact on delivery. Looking towards other models.
- Anticipating changes to planning structures – wider roles for district and single tier councils
- Unifying the best practice in the local authority strategic housing role

Schedule of Dates

The following table sets out proposed meeting dates:

	Date of Meetings			
	Strategic Group 1	Strategic Group 2	Strategic Group 3	Strategic Group 4

Pre Meeting – Scoping meeting with Chair	Week Commencing 21st July 08	Week Commencing 21st July 08	Week Commencing 21st July 08	Week Commencing 21st July 08
Meeting 1	21st Aug 2008 at 9:30am, HBF Offices	Week Commencing 8th Sep 08	17th Sep 2008 at 10:00am, Location TBC	11th Sep 2008 at 2:00pm, PRP Offices
HF Board Meeting	16th October 08 – Report by Working Party Chairmen to be Tabled			
Meeting 2	Week Commencing 20th October 08	Week Commencing 20th October 08	28th Oct 2008 at 9:30am, Location TBC	Week Commencing 20th October 08
Meeting 3	Week Commencing 24th November 08	Week Commencing 24th November 08	25th Nov 2008 at 10:00am, Location TBC	Week Commencing 24th November 08
4 Strategic Working Group Chairmen’s Meeting	Week Commencing 8th December 08	Week Commencing 8th December 08	Week Commencing 8th December 08	Week Commencing 8th December 08
Final Meeting ***	Week Commencing 12th January 09	Week Commencing 12th January 09	Week Commencing 12th January 09	Week Commencing 12th January 09
HF Board Meeting	22nd January 09			
Report Writing	8 weeks – 19th March 09			
Printing Report	3 weeks – 10th April 09			
National Conference Launch	29th April 2009			