

What next for housing?

Purpose

For information.

Summary

Housebuilding is well below the levels required for an efficient and fully functioning housing market. Around 130,000 new homes were built last year, whilst estimates of the housing need of people across the country vary between 220,000 and 250,000 homes a year.

Councils are well placed to help bridge the gap, and to provide the mix of different homes that deliver on their wider duties and ambitions for places and communities. In advance of the Government's Autumn Statement and Housing White Paper, which will set out how it plans to deliver 1 million new homes, the LGA is continuing to develop its strategy for putting councils at the centre of locally led housing, planning and homelessness solutions.

We have invited Terrie Alafat, Chief Executive of the Chartered Institute of Housing, and Hugh Ellis, Interim Chief Executive of the Town and Country Planning Association, to provide their perspectives on how the Government and councils can work together to build and plan for the homes communities need. The conversation will be chaired by Emma Maier, Editor of Inside Housing.

Biographies for the speakers are attached at [Appendix A](#).

Recommendation

That Councillors' Forum note the presentations and raise issues on how the sector can enable the building of homes that communities need.

Action

Officers will take forward actions identified.

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Appendix A

Chair: Emma Maier, Editor Inside Housing



Emma Maier joined Inside Housing as editor in 2014, having edited Local Government Chronicle since 2009. Before that she was deputy editor of social workers' magazine Community Care, where she led the Stand Up Now for Social Work campaign to improve media portrayals and public perceptions of the profession. She has also worked in the charity sector as deputy editor of Voluntary Sector, the magazine of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. She is the co-author of a book titled "The Good Giving Guide: A supporter's guide to charities and campaigning". Emma tweets at twitter.com/emmamaier.

Terrie Alafat CBE, Chief Executive Chartered Institute for Housing



Terrie Alafat is chief executive of the Chartered Institute of Housing, the independent voice for housing and the home of professional standards. She was most recently director of housing in the Department for Communities and Local Government, with overall policy responsibility for the supply and management of housing across all tenures, housing growth, and homelessness prevention and support. As part of this, she also led on sponsorship of the Homes and Communities Agency. She has worked in the civil service covering various housing policies and programmes since 2003. Terrie was given a CBE in 2013 for services to homeless people.

Hugh Ellis, Interim Chief Executive Town and Country Planning Association



Hugh joined the TCPA as senior planner in April 2009. Before taking the post he had been senior planning advisor to Friends of the Earth for 10 years and had previously worked as a lecturer in the University of Sheffield planning school. Since joining TCPA Hugh has been involved in providing expert advice and analysis of the NPPF and Localism Act and the more recently the Growth and Infrastructure Act. In 2013 he co-wrote Planning out Poverty, a year-long research project with the Webb Memorial Trust which explored the overarching question 'how can we re-focus planning to be more effective in dealing with social exclusion?'