

## **Item 1 Appendix A**

### **Item 1 Appendix A: Commission Members and Terms of Reference**

#### **Commission members**

##### **Chair**

Lord Richard Best, President, Local Government Association

##### **Members**

Gillian Beasley, Chief Executive, Peterborough City Council  
Steve Douglas, Director, douglaswood and former Chief Executive, Housing Corporation  
Jamie Kerr, Director of Regeneration and Education, John Laing  
Mike Owen, Special Housing Adviser, Cornwall Council  
Nick Raynsford MP  
Joanne Roney OBE, Chief Executive, Wakefield Council  
Tony Travers, Director, LSE London  
Steve Wilcox, Centre for Housing Policy, University of York

#### **Terms of Reference**

##### **Purpose**

To examine the scope for further development of the council role and capacity to facilitate and deliver new housing supply to meet local housing needs to sustain economic growth in the context of changing market conditions.

##### **Context**

Local authorities have a key role to play in facilitating and bringing about economic recovery and sustainable growth in their areas, in particular through their housing roles. The landscape in delivering housing is changing rapidly: we need to consider different methods of finance, delivery and partnership to meet the challenge of today's economic conditions; the HCA as a new delivery body is developing a new approach to place-making involving a single conversation with local authorities to influence and help shape its interventions in local areas; financing for council housing could be radically reformed on a self financing basis; and with local authorities themselves having a strategic responsibility and increasingly looking to bring their own resources to bear in providing housing themselves and with other parties.

##### **Terms of Reference**

In the context of sustaining economic growth and changing market conditions:

- Examine the extent to which councils have the tools to enable and facilitate delivery of new house building (directly or through others) within their current

**Item 1 Appendix A**

powers and responsibilities. As part of this, identify barriers to delivery and explore the incentives for delivery.

- Assess councils' appetite for and achievements in leading on, delivering, or working in partnership to bring about new housing of all tenures and how this could develop in future.
- Consider ways of using local authority assets and land to deliver house building in partnership with the private sector, housing associations and local people themselves
- Examine capacity within councils to lead on development and advise how councils' knowledge and skills for delivering and facilitating development can be strengthened further.

**Working method**

Commission – jointly appointed and supported by CLG and LGA Group, with support from HCA, and will be composed of relevant independent experts and Chaired by Lord Richard Best. It will be able to commission analytical work as its members determine. CLG to provide secretariat and resources to support its work.

**Timing**

Report to CLG/LGA by Summer 2010.