

Quality  
of Place

# Private Sector Housing Conference

## Delivering Excellence in a Changing Landscape

10<sup>th</sup> February 2011, York Racecourse

The Government has set out its strategic direction for housing in a series of policy announcements including the Comprehensive Spending Review; the Localism Bill: 'Local Decisions: a fairer future for social housing', and also the White Paper – 'Universal Credit: welfare that works.'

Details of the recent policy developments will have significant implications for the private housing sector, but how will this be realised?

At this year's **Private Sector Housing Conference: Delivering excellence in a changing landscape**, expert speakers will consider how the sector can meet the challenges introduced by the new government to meet social housing needs; tackle empty homes; meet the homelessness duty, and consider the role the sector can play in tackling the public deficit and promoting economic growth after the loss of private sector renewal.

The conference will also explore how the sector can reduce its carbon footprint, tackle fuel poverty and contribute to improving the health of occupants. This major national conference will give delegates a practical insight into approaches that have worked in other areas, providing examples of good practice that your organisation may wish to use.

### **Who should attend?**

This popular annual event should be attended by those responsible for strategic planning, management and delivery of private sector housing, environmental health and homeless services, as well as private sector landlord representatives.

### **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

Conference attendance will provide Chartered Institute of Environmental Health members with four hours of CPD training.

### 10.15 **Chair's introduction and welcome**

**Ann Pittard**

Service Director, Strategic Housing and Economic Development, Wakefield MDC

### 10.20 **Private sector housing: meeting social housing needs**

**Paul Beardmore**

Director of Housing, Manchester City Council

In this session Paul will explore the case for private sector housing, including the role of the sector in meeting social needs, market drivers and policy tools, stimulating the sector after the loss of private sector renewal, tackling empty homes, and comment on the potential of new government policy in this area.

### 11.00 **Professional practice sessions:**

#### 1. **Evaluation of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) and Selective Licensing**

**Maggie Davidson**

Technical Director, Housing Group, Building Research Establishment (BRE)

Maggie will explore learning from BRE's evaluation of HMO and Selective Licensing, good practice areas discovered and the issues faced when using the policy tools and delivering on these efficiently.

#### 2. **Reducing Kirklees carbon footprint and tackling fuel poverty**

**Councillor Andrew Cooper**

Kirklees Council

This session will explore Kirklees Council's approach to greening their neighbourhoods. The workshop will look at effectively tackling fuel poverty and the lessons to be shared from the Kirklees experience. The impact of spending cuts and new government policy on future green interventions will also be considered.

#### 3. **Homestamp – good practice in working with private sector landlords**

**Debbie Parkes**

Housing Strategy and Partnerships Manager, Walsall MBC

**Gary Wright**

Senior Urban Renewal Officer, Sandwell MBC

Homestamp, the award winning West Midlands Private Sector Housing partnership consortium, will explain the work they have been doing to encourage the supply of good quality private rented homes; providing and facilitating information and training for landlords; responding to regional and national issues affecting the private rented sector; and in encouraging joint working between parties.

### 12.00 **Lunch**

## 12.45 **Government policy overview**

**Sally Randall**

Deputy Director, Private Sector Housing, Department for Communities and Local Government

Sally will explore how private sector housing can contribute to the Government's ambition for the future of housing. The session will explore the impact of CSR decisions on private sector housing and government priorities moving forward.

## 13.20 **Response to government policy**

**Dave Hewitt**

Private Renting and Housing Development Manager, Crisis

Changes to the way that social housing is to be provided in future and reforms to the welfare system, in particular changes to Housing Benefit, will have huge implications for those needing access to private sector housing. Dave will explore the implications of government policy for the provision of homes for single homeless people and explore best practice that exists to overcome the barriers people face.

**Jonny Lighten MBE**

National Landlords Association

In this session Jonny will cover the views of private sector landlords in response to government policy which emphasises an enhanced role for the private rented sector in meeting social housing need, and explore how policy can be made to work in the sector.

## 14.00 **Professional practice sessions:**

### 4. **Evidencing the impact on health**

**Dr Jill Stewart**

Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich

In times of public sector cut-backs housing interventions must demonstrate their effectiveness. In this session Jill will cover good practice approaches to evidencing the impact of interventions on public health; provide a brief overview of the local authority role in relation to public health; and explore useful sources of data and using these effectively in practice.

### 5. **Legal update**

**Elizabeth Allen**

Associate, Dickinson Dees LLP

Reflecting on recent government policy changes affecting private sector housing including tenure reform, the homelessness discharge duty and welfare reform,

Elizabeth will provide an update on the legal implications for strategic housing, social housing providers and private landlords.

## **6. Private rented extra care: a new market?**

**Lawrence Miller**

Managing Consultant, Trimmer CS Housing Consultants

Is there a market for extra care in the private rented sector? Drawing on research into the role of the private rented sector in providing housing for older people, Lawrence will suggest a potentially untapped market for housing providers and commissioners.

## **15.00 Refreshments**

## **15.15 Tackling empty homes**

**David Ireland**

Chief Executive, Empty Homes Agency

Empty Homes account for 3% of the total housing stock in England and across the North there are 250,000 empty properties. With tackling empty homes now a key priority of government policy with the New Homes Bonus and £100m to support housing associations to refurbish properties, David will explore opportunities and challenges faced and how effective the new tools and incentives will be.

## **15.40 What next for the private sector?**

**Andrew Griffiths**

Principal Policy Officer, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)

Andrew will outline the CIEH's views of the emerging issues from government policy for housing providers and tenants. Implications for the overall provision of private sector housing will be considered, along with an assessment of what the future may be for the sector in meeting social housing need.

## **16.05 Questions and chair's closing remarks**

## **16.15 Close of conference**

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### Delegate fees

**Early booking discount:**  
book before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011

|                                    |      |      |
|------------------------------------|------|------|
| Northern Housing Consortium Member | £199 | £179 |
| Non Member                         | £249 | £229 |

All delegate fees are shown excluding VAT.

### How to book



#### Online

To book your delegate place at this event and to view our full terms & conditions and cancellation policy, please click below.

[Book Online](#)



#### Telephone

To make a provisional booking please telephone our events team;

**0191 566 1000**

Please note any telephone reservations are made on a provisional basis and must be confirmed in writing within 2 working days.

### Contact us

For further information or if you have a query please contact a member of the events team:

Telephone: 0191 566 1000

Email: [events@northern-consortium.org.uk](mailto:events@northern-consortium.org.uk)

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