

North York Moors National Park Authority

22 June 2015

Reports from Members on Outside Bodies

1. **Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To consider reports from Members attending meetings on outside bodies as representatives on the Authority.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 It has been agreed that Members attending meetings of bodies where they are representing the Authority should present a report, either verbal or written, on the issues discussed.

3. **Local Government North Yorkshire & East Riding Housing Board**

- 3.1 Alison Fisher attended this meeting on 16 March 2015. Her notes from the meeting are attached at **Appendix 1**.

4. **Financial and Staffing Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial or staffing implications.

5. **Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6. **Recommendation**

- 6.1 That the report be noted.

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**Local Government North Yorkshire and East Riding
Housing Board**

16 March 2015

1 Housing Strategy 2015 – 21. Following earlier endorsement of the paper whose overarching aim is to deliver housing priorities as set out in the Growth deal, the meeting was updated on the current situation. The Housing Strategy aims to double house building (compared to 2012-14 building rates) and triple the delivery of affordable housing. There was much discussion over the definition of “Completion” in terms of securing funding for finished housing schemes. As there was some confusion over the interpretation of “completion” a review will be undertaken. A report on the Housing Strategy and other important housing related planning issues will be presented to members at a future Planning Committee meeting.

2 A Housing Market Update was presented by the representative from Barratt/DWH:- currently 46 sites under construction by medium/large developers and 1790 completions are expected in 14/15; the draft Housing Plan requires 4949 houses to be built but this appears unlikely to be met; only one local authority has an adopted local plan (Core Strategy and Site Allocations) and both Harrogate and York are unlikely to be ready until 2017. “Objectively assessed need” is increasingly under challenge by developers; the depth and quality of “Viability assessments” in the planning process by local authorities varies considerably;

3 Changes to the NPPF and the S106 impact on small sites. There was general agreement that the Local Government Association should continue to petition government over the impact these changes are having on local delivery – the outcome of the judicial review is awaited

4 A summary of current situation from a representative from the **Homes and Communities Agency**: - All Affordable Homes from the 2011-15 programme were due for completion on 31 March 2015; funding for the 2015 onwards programme is now available and the HCA is seeking bids with an emphasis on rural schemes and those using an advance manufacture process; the Care and Support II for older adults schemes is available but would there be any bids from this group?; bids also sought for Homeless Schemes; funding for Development Finance to assist starts on SME-type sites is now available

5 North Yorkshire Home Choice and the impact on Armed Forces Divorcees. This item was raised following an approach to a Member about the difficult position a divorcee might find him/herself in relation to access to the Home Choice register and the lack of apparent eligibility to secure accommodation following divorce and the consequential loss of armed forces accommodation. Members felt that insufficient figures were available to them to assess the impact of this potential change to the rules and sought more information albeit that there was little inclination to agree such a change.

The next meeting of the Housing Board is 13 July 2015

Alison Fisher
June 2015