



Good Practice

Objective

<p>Guide for Parish Councils</p>	<p>To explain the process of developing rural affordable housing for local people. The guide explains how the council is working to address local housing need and how a parish council can contribute to the process to ensure that the needs of a parish are met.</p>
---	---

Detail

The guide provides a clear explanation of the process of delivering affordable housing to assist in breaking down some of the barriers that exist in delivering affordable housing in rural locations. It also provides details on the relevant policies, key contacts, definitions, and areas of responsibilities associated with the delivery of affordable housing.

The guide was launched at a joint event arranged by Herefordshire Council and [Hampshire Association of Local Councils](#) where those parish councils that attended were provided with a hard copy of the guide. For those that didn't attend, a copy of the guide was provided to them. It has been provided in a folder format so that individual pages could updated. Parish Councils are notified of updates through the councils website

Initial cost of the guide and contribution to the launch event was substantial but ongoing costs will be minimal. This is offset in some ways by a potential reduction in enquiries to the Housing Needs and Development Team from parish councils. Parish councils can also be directed to the guide for further information as a means to explaining various aspects of delivering affordable housing.

Outcomes

When Housing Development Officers visit parish councils to discuss housing needs surveys and/or affordable housing delivery, their attention is drawn to the parish guide as a resource. On the feedback form parish councils are asked if they are aware of guide in order to establish if the guide has been utilised.

It assists in bringing forward land opportunities that may be suitable for affordable housing. It also assists in filling knowledge gaps, and keeping Parish Councils well informed

Update - 2012 Text updated

[Guide for Parish Councils](#)

Author: Herefordshire Council

Contact: Housing Development Officer

housingdevelopment@herefordshire.gov.uk

The above example of good practice may be shared with local authorities, rural stakeholders and partners. The author/good practice example provider has full ownership of the example and can remove it from the website at any time.

The author/good practice provider, by providing the example, gives permission for replication and use of ideas. Any individual or organisation that does so should notify the author/good practice provider, as well as the Rural and Communities team at the HCA.



Rural Affordable Housing
Project

ruralhousing@hca.gsx.gov.uk

www.ruralaffordablehousing.org.uk