



**Good Practice**

**Objective**

<b>Cross parish joint local needs schemes</b>	Provides an opportunity for two or more small parishes that are closely related to each other to develop a joint local needs housing scheme where by working alone would be unlikely to identify sufficient need to justify a viable development, and/or identify suitable land to bring forward for development.
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**Detail**

Some parishes already have close links with each other and are working co-operatively on projects - a joint local needs scheme can therefore be an obvious way forward.

Housing need surveys are carried out simultaneously in each parish separately and results are presented to show both individual and joint results. Site searches are undertaken in both/all parishes and agreement reached on the most suitable and sustainable locations.

This can enable a parish with a lack of sites or small population (low needs) to have a 'stake' in a local needs housing scheme. If not in their own parish, in a neighbouring area, which means local people can find affordable accommodation within the immediate locality. This can make a scheme more viable and attractive for a Registered Provider if developing a higher number of properties.

Demonstrates joint working between parishes. Does rely on good relations between parishes and shared ambitions/priorities

## Outcomes

This policy has supported parishes that, if left in isolation, would not have access to local needs housing.

Crundale, and Godmersham, small parishes with fewer than 500 residents between them have worked together.

This has produced a joint scheme currently under construction for 8 properties 3 shared ownership and 5 rented.

**Update 2012** - The scheme for Godmersham and Crundale is completed and is fully occupied by households from each of the 2 parishes.

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