



Good Practice

Objective

<p>Affordable Housing Working Groups</p>	<p>To help accelerate the enabling process, and find solutions to blockages; aim to explore potential issues and concerns before they reach the council’s debating chamber and in order for members to be better informed of all the relevant issues.</p>
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Detail

North Dorset DC has two working groups set up:
 The Officer and Member Working Group –with leader of council, chairman and housing and planning portfolio holders; and (ii) Practitioners (Affordable Housing) Working Group – comprising development control, housing, planning and legal.

Both groups are designed to help deliver more affordable housing.

The Member/Officer group deal with schemes that have political sensibilities, eg opposition from parish council.
 The Member/Officer group also takes an overview of the whole programme on a parish by parish basis.

The Affordable Housing/Practitioners Working Group has also produced a model heads of terms for S106 Agreements and co-ordinates policy on delivery of rural affordable housing.

Process

A number of schemes have been unblocked by the Group. For example where one proposal was deemed unsustainable from a development control point of view the same DC officer suggested an alternative close by. Regular monitoring of delivery ensures schemes keel coming forward on a rolling basis.

[Affordable Housing Working Group – Terms of reference](#)

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