

# DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

## BOARD MEETING

1 July 2014

### Minutes

#### Present:

- Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (until 12.15)
- Brandon Lewis MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
- Baroness Stowell, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
- Kris Hopkins MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
- Nick Boles MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
- Stephen Williams MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
  
- Sara Weller, Lead Non Executive Board Member (Chairman for part)
- Stephen Hay, Non Executive Board Member
- Nick Markham, Non Executive Board Member
  
- Sir Bob Kerslake, Permanent Secretary
- Peter Schofield, Director-General
- Andrew Campbell, Director-General
- Louise Casey, Director-General
- David Hill, Director of Strategy, Communications and Private Office
- David Rossington, Director of Finance
  
- Peter Williams, Intermediary Mortgage Lenders Association
- Jim Ward, Savills
- Robert Grundy, Savills
- Terrie Alafat, Director of Housing
- Rebecca Shrubsole
- Tom Walker, Director of Cities & Local Growth
- David Morris, Deputy Director, Local Growth
- Mary Hudson

#### Apologies:

- Grenville Turner, Non Executive Board Member
- Helen Edwards, Director-General

#### Secretariat:

- Tom Wechsler
- Nina Shuttlewood
- Julie Nelson

## **Introduction and matters arising**

1. Sara Weller welcomed attendees to the meeting. The Secretary of State was meeting the Prime Minister and would join the Board shortly.
2. The minutes from the December, February and April Board meetings were agreed.

## **Item 1: Performance**

3. Andrew Campbell introduced the item and gave a summary of the paper. The Board approved the Department's revised risk appetite statement. The Board also discussed a number of items arising from the performance papers, noting progress on Better Care implementation.

## **Item 2: Housing**

4. Kris Hopkins introduced this item and welcomed 3 external speakers; Peter Williams from the Intermediary Mortgage Lenders Association and Robert Grundy and Jim Ward from Savills.
5. Following short presentations from each of the external speakers the Board discussed a number of key developments in the housing market including:
  - a. The impact of an ageing population and higher levels of renting
  - b. Progress in increasing levels of house-building and key challenges around diversifying supply
  - c. How best to ensure more land was released for development
  - d. How best to support smaller builders as a key source of supply
  - e. The potential role of local authorities in relation to facilitating housing development

## **Item 3: Local Growth Deliverables**

6. Peter Schofield introduced the item, ahead of the launch of Local Growth Deals on 7 July. In discussion it was noted that Local Growth Deals were a good example of devolving powers to the local level in order to drive growth.
7. The Board also had a brief discussion on progress in Enterprise Zones. The Government had set out a clear objective for development in every zone by March 2015 and the zones were on track to achieve this.

## **AOB and concluding remarks**

8. The Board agreed that the agenda for the next meeting on 14 October should include the topics as set out in the Forward Look, subject to the Secretary of State's approval:

- a. Integration & Cohesion: A progress update
- b. Troubled Families: 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase
- c. Look ahead to the Autumn Statement
- d. Performance

9. The Chairman thanked attendees for their contribution to the meeting.

Board Secretariat  
July 2014