



Homes  
England

Date: 1 October 2021

Our Ref: RFI3566

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

Making homes happen

██████████  
By Email Only

Information Governance Team  
Homes England  
Windsor House – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
50 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0TL

Dear ██████████

**RE: Request for Information – RFI3566**

Thank you for your request for information which was processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You requested the following information:

*Please can you send me any correspondence (email, letters) between Harrogate Borough Council leader Cllr Richard Cooper and anyone from Homes England over the past 12 months.*

*Please can you send me any correspondence (email, letters) between Harrogate Borough Council chief executive Wallace Sampson and anyone from Homes England over the past 12 months.*

**Response**

We can confirm that we do hold the requested information and will address each of your questions in turn.

***Please can you send me any correspondence (email, letters) between Harrogate Borough Council leader Cllr Richard Cooper and anyone from Homes England over the past 12 months.***

Please find enclosed Annex A which contains correspondence that falls within the scope of your request. However, we rely on Section 40 (2) and Section 43 (2) of the FOIA to withhold some of the information from disclosure.

**Section 40 – Personal information**

We have redacted information on the grounds that it constitutes third party personal data and therefore engages section 40(2) of the FOIA.

To disclose personal data, such as names, contact details, addresses, email addresses and personal opinions could lead to the identification of third parties and would breach one or more of the data protection principles.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption which means that we do not need to consider the public interest in disclosure. Once it is established that the information is personal data of a third party and release would breach one or more of the data protection principles, then the exemption is engaged.

OFFICIAL



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The full text in the legislation can be found on the following link:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/40>

### Section 43 - Commercial interests

Under section 43(2) Homes England is not obliged to disclose information that would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any party.

The information requested relating to financial information engages section 43(2) of the FOIA as it is commercial in nature and its release would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of Homes England and other interested parties to the information.

Homes England has identified that the information requested, if released, would be likely to prejudice the effective operation of future development of the site.

Section 43 is a qualified exemption. This means that once we have decided that the exemption is engaged, Homes England must carry out a public interest test to assess whether or not it is in the wider public interest for the information to be disclosed.

### Arguments in favour of disclosure:

- Homes England acknowledges there is a general public interest in promoting accountability, transparency, public understanding and involvement in how Homes England undertakes its work and how it spends public money.

### Arguments in favour of withholding:

- The information relates to a site where a third party (the council) is still procuring/undertaking works. If this information were released it would be likely to disadvantage the third party's commercial position and have a negative impact on the third party's ability to procure works for ongoing development at this site. The council would not be able to negotiate effectively as this information could be used by third parties to distort or otherwise prejudice the ability of the council being able to secure works for market value, resulting in damage to the public purse. This would also be likely to have the same negative effect on future commercial activity and other Homes England funding. This would not be in the public interest as it would put development at risk, inflate prices and damage Homes England's reputation as a partner. This would negatively affect public money and nullify work already undertaken;
- Releasing the information would be likely to negatively impact future development processes and proposals as interested parties may feel unable to provide all the relevant information necessary to Homes England for fear of disclosure. This would impact the ability of Government officials to make effective, informed decisions regarding allocation of public funds;
- If information regarding value that has been/will be derived were in the public domain, there could be expectations from the public and potential future partners about the value of the site and the value of potential works. This would mean that prices could be inflated and negotiating positions put at risk. This would not be in the public interest as it would be likely to result in poorer value for public money;
- Disclosure would result in the council's negotiating position being adversely affected. If other potential or confirmed sources of funding became aware of how much funding is likely to be provided and by whom it



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would be likely to result in Homes England having to pay a higher grant than would have otherwise be the case. This would result in greater cost to the public purse which would not be in the public interest;

- Releasing the information could reveal financial information of a third party which may in turn affect their commercial interests. The consequences of releasing data that is part of a wider ongoing matter could damage our relationships with partners and put other potential funding allocations at risk. This would not be in the public interest as this could put potential homes in jeopardy and affect Homes England's ability to deliver against its objectives in our strategic plan; and
- Homes England has been unable to identify a wider public interest in disclosing the information requested.

Having considered the arguments for and against disclosure of the information, we have concluded that at this time, the balance of the public interest favours non-disclosure.

The full text of the legislation can be found on the following link:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/43>

***Please can you send me any correspondence (email, letters) between Harrogate Borough Council chief executive Wallace Sampson and anyone from Homes England over the past 12 months.***

Please find enclosed Annex B which contains correspondence that falls within the scope of your request. However, we rely on Section 40 (2) of the FOIA to withhold some of the information from disclosure.

#### Section 40 – Personal information

We have redacted information on the grounds that it constitutes third party personal data and therefore engages section 40(2) of the FOIA.

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The full text in the legislation can be found on the following link:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/40>

#### **Not in Scope**

We have also redacted information contained within Annex B that does not fall within scope of your request.

Please also find enclosed Annex C which contains copies of meeting invites between Harrogate Borough Council leader Councillor Richard Cooper, Chief Executive Wallace Sampson and anyone from Homes England. However, we rely on Section 40 (2) of the FOIA to withhold some of the information from disclosure.



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The full text in the legislation can be found on the following link:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/40>

#### **Not in Scope**

We have also redacted information contained within Annex C that does not fall within scope of your request.

#### **Right to Appeal**

If you are not happy with the information that has been provided or the way in which your request has been handled you may request an internal review by writing to;

The Information Governance Team  
Homes England – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Windsor House  
50 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0TL

Or by email to [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)

You may also complain to the Information Commissioner however, the Information Commissioner does usually expect the internal review procedure to be exhausted in the first instance.

The Information Commissioner's details can be found via the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/>

Please note that the contents of your request and this response are also subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Homes England may be required to disclose your request and our response accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

**The Information Governance Team**  
For Homes England

s. 40(2)

**From:** s. 40(2)  
**Sent:** 21 June 2021 09:46  
**To:** s. 40(2)@harrogate.gov.uk  
**Cc:** richard.cooper@harrogate.gov.uk; s. 40(2)  
**Subject:** Outline Planning Application - Police Training Centre, Harrogate  
**Attachments:** HPTC Letter to HBC.pdf

Both

Please see attached letter from s. 40(2)

Kindest Regards

s. 40(2)



DD s. 40(2)  
Switchboard: 0300 1234 500  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Lateral  
8 City Walk  
Leeds  
LS11 9AT

[@HomesEngland](#)

**#MakingHomesHappen**

We're the government's housing accelerator. We have the appetite, influence, expertise and resources to drive positive market change. [Find out more and help make this happen.](#)

Please forward any Freedom of Information Requests to: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)



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Homes  
England

Making homes happen

FAOs. 40(2)  
Harrogate Borough Council  
PO Box 787  
Harrogate  
HG1 9RW

18 June 2021

**OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION (REF: 20/02318/OUTMAJ) AT POLICE TRAINING CENTRE, HARROGATE, NORTH YORKSHIRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONVERSION OF NORTH LODGE, HEADMASTERS HOUSE, KENSINGTON HOUSE AND LIBRARY TO FORM UP TO 16 DWELLINGS AND ERECTION OF UP TO 184 NEW BUILD DWELLINGS (UP TO 200 UNITS IN TOTAL) WITH ASSOCIATED ACCESS ROADS, CYCLE LINK, LANDSCAPING AND INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS AND APPROVAL OF THE POINTS OF ACCESS.**

Dear S. 40(2)

I write further to the extremely disappointing decision by Members of Harrogate's Planning Committee to defer the planning application at the Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021, despite the Planning Officers recommendation for approval. Having now reviewed the minutes of the meeting, these confirm that the reason for deferring the application relates to prematurity and that Members consider they will not be in a position to determine the application until such time that the West of Harrogate parameters plan is in place.

Having observed Planning Committee it was clear that there were some misconceptions relating to the application and the role of Homes England and this letter seeks to address specific matters that have been raised by Members of the Planning Committee, particularly in respect of the site's relationship with the emerging West of Harrogate Parameters Plan (WHPP).

#### **The Role of Homes England**

Homes England are a non-departmental public body, sponsored by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and tasked with accelerating the delivery of housing across England. As the government's housing accelerator, we have a responsibility to drive positive market change and to release land to developers, helping to improve neighbourhoods and grow communities. Our role is to ensure more people have access to better homes in the right places, and to make this happen we intervene in the housing market, working with a range of partners to get more homes built where and when they are needed. Our approach is to utilise the powers afforded to us by government to acquire challenging sites that are constrained by technical issues, or that the private sector cannot progress without financial intervention.

This includes acquiring stalled sites that are subject to market failure, such as the Police Training Centre, whereby existing planning permissions aren't implemented owing to various issues. Such issues can include an existing planning permission not meeting local housing demand or not being market facing. An unimplemented scheme may not be deliverable or viable. In some cases, the original consent may not deliver the benefits expected in the adopted Local Plan or be of poor-quality design and need to be re-masterplanned. In such circumstances, Homes England's role is to intervene in the market and work with Local Authorities to enable development of stalled sites which support Local Plan delivery targets.

The Lumen  
St James Boulevard  
Newcastle Helix  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE4 5BZ

0300 1234 500  
@HomesEngland  
[www.gov.uk/homes-england](http://www.gov.uk/homes-england)

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The Police Training Centre site (H36) is allocated as a Committed Housing Development site under Policy DM1 (Housing Allocations) within Harrogate Borough Council's adopted Local Plan and is subject to an extant planning permission granted on the 25th October 2018. Having reviewed the permitted scheme and assessed the local housing market, Homes England submitted a revised outline planning application in June 2020, which retained the principles of the previous consent, but sub-divided some of the previously identified larger properties with smaller family homes to better align with local housing need. The existing playing pitch was also removed from the current scheme following consultation with HBC and Sport England in lieu of their preference for an off-site contribution to the Penal Sports facility.

In line with the Council's ambitions for growth and our own Strategic Objectives, Homes England has to date invested approximately **£. 43** into the Borough to accelerate delivery of circa 2,378 homes by acquiring the Police Training Centre site, Bluecoat Park, West Lane, Ripon and via our partnering arrangement at Ripon Barracks, all of which are allocated sites within the adopted local plan and all of which are stalled for different reasons. Homes England are not seeking to bring forward an unallocated sites in this instance continue to work closely with Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) and a range of stakeholders to agree an appropriate and implementable approach to delivery of these sites. One that de-risks and unlocks the land for future residential development in line with local priorities and helps Harrogate deliver its projected housing numbers.

### **Proposed Development at Harrogate Police Training Centre**

The outline planning application was submitted to HBC in June 2020. Committed members commented that initially the submission proposed a total of up to **£. 43** dwellings. However, during the course of the application this was amended to up to **£. 43** units in light of consultation responses received, whereby it was agreed with Sports England and HBC to remove the playing pitches from the scheme and replace with additional homes. Homes England has sought to consult and listen to the views of the Council and others to ensure the application delivers local objectives.

In addition, the potential impact of the development (together with other developments around Harrogate) on local infrastructure and the surrounding road network has been fully considered. This includes Homes England agreeing a highways contribution of **£. 43** to North Yorkshire County Council in advance of the emerging West of Harrogate Parameters Plan (WHPP) based on its apportionment of the schemes impact on the highway network in West Harrogate. The total cost of highways upgrades to facilitate developments across West Harrogate is estimated at **£. 43** which are to be delivered either by the works promoters require as S278 Schemes, or as part of cumulative S106 Obligations. The revised scheme also included provision of a segregated cycleway to link up with other West Harrogate sites. Therefore, the proposed development takes into consideration the cumulative impact of sites within the West Harrogate area, contrary to some of the concerns raised at Planning Committee.

Homes England has prioritised sustainability and the application scheme will deliver significant benefits, including: electrical car charging points, cycling infrastructure and a travel plan, no net loss of biodiversity, a reduction of CO2 emissions by 31% taking account of impending Part L & F changes, delivering sustainable development on brownfield land whilst preserving non-designated heritage assets and protecting the wildlife and trees and developer contributions to mitigate impacts of development on local infrastructure. 100% of the newbuild homes on this site propose using modern methods of construction and our development partner will also implement the energy and sustainability strategy submitted with the outline application.

The principle of residential development and the fundamental merits of the scheme have been previously approved by the Council as evidenced by the extant planning consent. The minor additional impacts of revisions introduced into the current scheme (for the reasons set out above) have been agreed by Officers resulting in the application being recommended for approval at planning committee on 3rd June.

### **West of Harrogate Parameters Plan (WHPP)**

The WHPP supports the sustainable and co-ordinated development of the H45, H49 and H51 allocations in West Harrogate for approximately 2,200 homes, two new primary schools, Local centres, Employment land, areas of green and blue infrastructure, including new and associated infrastructure requirements. Homes England has a land interest in WHPP following the recent acquisition of H45 (Bluecoat) and is playing a central role working in partnership with the Council to co-ordinate the process with the fellow land promoters at H49 and H51.

The document provides the overarching approach of how the three sites can be delivered in a coordinated way, to assist HBC in assessing the planning applications for each allocation and to provide a strong design framework underpinned by principles of good urban design. The early design sections of the document are underway, however, the consultations regarding social infrastructure provision and highways matters have resulted in a delay in the timetable.

Harrogate Police Training Centre does not form part of the WHPP. As highlighted in the Officers Report to Committee, this is a committed site with an extant consent and emerging WHPP requirements have been provided. Homes England does not consider any policy basis exists to delay determination of the application until the completion of the WHPP. The WHPP does not form part of the development plan, has not been consulted upon and is not sufficiently advanced to form a material consideration to any application at this time.

A revised timetable for approval of WHPP is currently being produced by HBC, however, it is anticipated that the WHPP will not be approved until much later in the year. Homes England does not consider it necessary to wait until the WHPP is approved (for the reasons set out in this letter) and in doing so this will lead to significant delay, cost and risk to delivery. Timely determination of the planning application is a key objective for Homes England, given the significant amount of work undertaken to date and the officer's recommendation for approval. We have identified a housing development partner who will bring forward a Reserved Matters application following resolution of this application with a view to delivering the homes identified within the local plan.

### **Matters Arising from Planning Committee**

At Planning Committee and in subsequent correspondence with key stakeholders that we're aware of, reference has been made to a lack of understanding regarding the role and remit of Homes England. Concerns in respect of the Agency's role in 'accelerating housing delivery' are particularly frustrating and in our view could have been satisfactorily addressed at an early stage of the process via stakeholder consultation or a briefing to members from Homes England. This approach was suggested to HBC at various stages, but we were advised against direct engagement with members and our understanding was that Officers would manage this process on our behalf. It is therefore frustrating that HBC have not addressed these fundamental questions in their role of briefing members on the application. Homes England would welcome the opportunity to explore opportunities with the Council to engage with members and key stakeholders on all of our projects at pre- and post-submission stages and are committed to attending the Members Learning and Development meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> June to explain more about Homes England, our remit and the delivery of the Police Training Centre.

The Police Training Centre is an allocated site with an extant consent and we were surprised to be in a position whereby the application has been deferred pending the approval of the WHPP, which is likely to take a number of months to complete. Therefore, we'd be grateful if HBC can provide a response setting out their proposed strategy for successful navigating this application through Planning Committee as soon as possible. In the meantime, we are seeking legal advice regarding our planning strategy, including the merits of an Appeal against Non-Determination.

### **Summary**

As the government's housing accelerator, Homes England has a responsibility to improve neighbourhoods and grow communities across the country. Homes England have appointed a developer partner, Countryside Properties Ltd, who are seeking to pursue a Reserved Matters Application and deliver this allocated site on receipt of the outline planning permission.

Through the delivery of investment initiatives and the acquisition of challenging sites, we play a key role as a strategic partner to HBC in supporting their ambitions for growth and helping to drive positive market change. The outline planning application at Police Training Centre and the on-going work around the West of Harrogate Parameters Plan is a result of several years close-working relationship between Homes England, HBC, North Yorkshire County Council and other key stakeholders and the decision to defer determination of the application at June's Planning Committee was disappointing.

Homes England will continue to work with HBC, NYCC and relevant stakeholders in order to realise timely determination of the outline application, including attending a members training session on 30<sup>th</sup> June to provide further information regarding Homes England's remit and the proposed development at the Police



Training Centre. Notwithstanding, we continue to consider the options available to the Agency, including taking advice regarding a possible Appeal for Non-Determination.

Should any clarification or further information be required with regards to the above, please do not hesitate to contact either s. 40(2) or s. 40(2).

Yours sincerely

s. 40(2)

s. 40(2)

s. 40(2)

**From:** s. 40(2) @harrogate.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 13 January 2021 14:46  
**To:** s. 40(2)  
**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: Homes England Compliance Audit results

Hi s. 40(2)

Thanks for getting in touch with a heads up about the compliance audit and I'm sorry that you were unable to get through to me. My landline number is as per the details below but should you need to contact me urgently in the future my mobile number is s. 40(2).

I am disappointed that the Council has received a red rating with regard to the grant claim for the Manor Gardens scheme and I will take this up internally. I am, however, reassured to note that corrective action should not affect the support for future schemes from Homes England.

I will ensure that the actions are reviewed when the report is received and I thank you once again for bringing it to my attention.

Regards,

s. 40(2)

s. 40(2)

Harrogate Borough Council  
PO Box 787  
Harrogate HG1 9RW

Telephone: s. 40(2)  
Email: s. 40(2) @harrogate.gov.uk  
Web: [www.harrogate.gov.uk](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk)

Coronavirus advice for residents and businesses in the Harrogate district: [www.harrogate.gov.uk/covid19](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/covid19)

To subscribe to our Residents' News, for the latest news and updates on our response to the coronavirus outbreak, please visit: [www.harrogate.gov.uk/residentsnews](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/residentsnews)

Harrogate Borough Council is working with Craven, Richmondshire, Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby on a proposal for local government reorganisation – which will keep your services local.

We need your support – please go to [www.get-change-right.com/consultations](http://www.get-change-right.com/consultations) to have your say.

s. 40(2)

**From:** s. 40(2)  
**Sent:** 06 May 2021 10:05  
**To:** s. 40(2) @harrogate.gov.uk  
**Cc:** s. 40(2) @harrogate.gov.uk  
**Subject:** re: IMS Security Application for Harrogate Borough Council  
**Attachments:** Confirmation\_of\_Authorised\_Security\_Adminsitrators\_v10jk.doc

s. 40(2)

As the form was not signed by s. 40(2), please can we have an email from s. 40(2) confirming that he authorises s. 40(2) and s. 40(2) to act as security administrators on IMS on the council's behalf.

Thank you.

Regards

s. 40(2)



Homes  
England

50 Victoria Street, Westminster, London SW1H 0TL

Good morning

Please find confirmation of Authority Security Administrators documentation attached. Please let me know if you require any further information.

Kind regards

s. 40(2)

#####  
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This e-mail and any attachments may contain information that is confidential or privileged, and is intended solely for the use of the named recipient.

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Any opinions are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Council.  
No officer is authorised to make a contract on the Councils behalf by e-mail.  
The recipient is responsible for virus checking this e-mail and any attachments.  
The Council does not accept service of legal documents by e-mail.

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**s. 40(2)**

**From:** **s. 40(2)**  
**Sent:** 17 May 2021 20:31  
**Subject:** From **s. 40(2)**, Director, Local Government Capacity Centre, Homes England

Your partnerships with Homes England are vital to meet our joint ambitious objectives and make homes happen.

I am therefore delighted to introduce Homes England's new [Local Government Capacity Centre](#).

### Summer Learning Programme

The centre is offering a series of knowledge-sharing sessions for officers.

These are especially relevant for planning, housing delivery, regeneration, housing policy and strategy, economic development, finance and legal teams.

Do pass this invitation to any of your colleagues who may be interested, and so they can book directly.

Session	Date	Time	Registrations close	Bookings
Introduction to Homes England	14 June 2021	11.00 – 12.00	10 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Introduction to Brownfield Sites	15 June 2021	11.00 - 12.30	11 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Principles of Market Failure	16 June 2021	11.00 – 2.00	14 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Affordable Homes Programme and Planning (S106)	17 June 2021	11.00 – 12.00	15 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Market Insights	17 June 2021	2.00 – 3.30	15 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
An Introduction to Delivery Partnerships	18 June 2021	11.00 - 12.30	16 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Effective Project Management	21 June 2021	11.00 - 12.30	17 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Understanding Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs)	22 June 2021	2.00 - 3.30	18 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Development Appraisals and Viability	23 June 2021	2.00 - 3.30	21 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Design Codes	24 June 2021	11.00 - 12.30	22 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Using Homes England Frameworks	25 June 2021	11.00 – 12.00	23 June	<a href="#">Book here</a>

Having spent my career working in authorities, I am pleased to have the opportunity to work with colleagues across the sector to build further on the effective relationships between local government and Homes England, and develop and share the resources, tools and best practices that are being sought.

Regards

**s. 40(2)**

s. 40(2)

[@homesengland.gov.uk](https://twitter.com/homesengland.gov.uk)



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Please forward any Freedom of Information Requests to: [infogov@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@homesengland.gov.uk)



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s. 40(2)

**From:** s. 40(2)  
**Sent:** 22 June 2021 13:18  
**To:** s. 40(2) @harrogate.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Reminder-Homes England & Inside Housing Development Summit



Dear s. 40(2)

Next week Homes England is partnering with Inside Housing to host the Development Summit.

Focussing on the big issues facing the housing sector today, the summit is an unmissable opportunity to learn more about the projects taking place across the country, find out about grants and funding available plus make the connections your organisation needs to develop partnerships to accelerate housing delivery in your area.

With so many chief executives and directors booking to attend the *Inside Housing* and **Homes England Development Summit** (29 June - 1 July, virtual), we are **opening up this event** to even more voices.

Inside Housing has introduced a reduced delegate rate available to managers within housing associations and local authorities and a separate reduced rate for managers of other for-profit businesses.

Housing associations, local authorities, not-for-profit organisations: **not in scope**

Other organisations: **not in scope**

To book your delegate pass, visit [www.insidehousing.co.uk/developmentsummit](http://www.insidehousing.co.uk/developmentsummit) or contact [conferences@oceanmedia.co.uk](mailto:conferences@oceanmedia.co.uk).

We can also announce that The Rt Hon Christopher Pincher MP, minister of state for housing will be delivering a keynote address.

[Click here](#) to download the summit preview brochure.

To book your delegate pass, visit [www.insidehousing.co.uk/developmentsummit](http://www.insidehousing.co.uk/developmentsummit) or contact [conferences@oceanmedia.co.uk](mailto:conferences@oceanmedia.co.uk).

Thanks for your support

Homes England Events Team

[Events@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:Events@homesengland.gov.uk)

s. 40(2)

**From:** s. 40(2) @businessinspiredgrowth.com>  
**Sent:** 12 July 2021 10:23  
**To:** s. 40(2); Wallace Sampson;  
 s. 40(2)  
**Cc:** s. 40(2)  
**Subject:** Introduction to Local Area Energy Planning  
**Attachments:** York North Yorks LAEP Intro Wshop Consideration Questions.docx

Dear all,

I'm looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow for this introductory workshop to Local Area Energy Planning and how we can use it to drive investment into decarbonisation in York and North Yorkshire. The Energy Systems Catapult, who have been supporting this work and will be running the workshop tomorrow, have posed some initial questions for your consideration, which we will cover together tomorrow – please could you take a look at the attached 2pg intro and questions document before the workshop tomorrow and consider your responses to the questions posed for discussion at the workshop.

Thanks and kind regards,

s. 40(2)

s. 40(2)

T: s. 40(2)  
E: s. 40(2) @businessinspiredgrowth.com

York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership

s. 40(2)



## York & North Yorkshire Introduction to LAEP Method & Process

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Context: In York & North Yorkshire there has been significant work carried out on the Carbon Abatement Pathways as well as Local Energy Asset Representation to model current emission sources and future scenarios towards a carbon negative region. Local Area Energy Planning will build upon this work to provide spatial granularity and no regrets action plans in the short term as well as long term cost analysis of scenarios.

As part of the prep work for Local Area Energy Planning, Energy Systems Catapult is facilitating an Introductory workshop on *Local Area Energy Planning: The Method Guidance* recently prepared by Energy Systems Catapult and the Centre for Sustainable Energy for Ofgem.

The Introduction workshop is an opportunity to discuss stakeholder priorities and challenges and agree a common understanding of the key questions a Local Area Energy Plan can answer to ensure it meets stakeholder objectives.

We have prepared these consideration questions to help facilitate this discussion. We would kindly ask you to consider the questions below, and come prepared to the workshop to discuss.

### LAEP introduction

Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) provides a data driven, spatial and collaborative means, to help local government, network operators, and local businesses and communities explore and plan for a range of possible future local energy scenarios to decarbonise cost-effectively. ESC's whole energy system LAEP process was developed in 2015-17 as part of the Smart Systems and Heat (SSH) programme. It was piloted in three areas Newcastle, Bury in Greater Manchester, and Bridgend in Wales to explore decarbonisation of heat in buildings.

In 2020, ESC and CSE prepared a guidance entitled *Local Area Energy Planning: The Method Guidance* which describes the purpose and value of LAEP, identifies four key elements of the process and sets out quality criteria for each element which together define what a "well done" LAEP may look like. At present, LAEP or the draft framework for devolved, regional, and local energy planning provided by Scottish Government are not required for network planning by network operators. Nevertheless, the guidances are considered by Ofgem as useful indication of what evidence can support a more local or regionally driven ambition.

Further work and trials like this project are needed to refine methodologies and explore ways of implementing LAEP in different circumstances. We are also currently working with Greater Manchester Combined Authority to deliver LAEP across 10 boroughs.

### LAEP Benefits

LAEP forms the locally defined evidence base of the most cost-effective route to net zero, identifying priority areas for specific locations of future infrastructure and assisting future planning requirements. Identification of green inward investment opportunities for the region will lead to increased economic and additional benefits such as job creation, air quality and associated health impacts, reduced fuel poverty and associated health impacts. There are also associated cost savings of the planned vs unplanned, a report found that this was in the range of 11-27%.



## Consideration Questions

### Section 1: Stakeholder objectives

In this section we would like you to consider the key objectives and potential concerns you have in relation to a LAEP process.

1. What outcomes would you like to get from a LAEP process? Please be as specific as possible.
2. What additional value would you like to gain from a LAEP process compared to the activities you are already undertaking?
3. Do you have specific concerns related to the LAEP process, and if so what are they?
4. What solutions may help address your concerns during this project (e.g. processes, clarifications, data sharing arrangements)?

### Section 2: Ways of working together

Clarity of roles and responsibilities within the LAEP process is critical and has been highlighted as key area of feedback by wider stakeholders in response to the *Local Area Energy Planning: The Method Guidance*. We'd like to invite you to consider the following questions at this stage of your project's development.

5. How do you envision your role and responsibilities?
6. What roles do you foresee for other stakeholders?
7. What resources are you able to allocate to the project?
8. What other sources (e.g. studies, reports, modelling outputs) do you have access to which can support this project? Please indicate if you would be able to share them with this stakeholder group.

### Section 3: Any other comments

9. Please feel free to add any other comments.

s. 40(2)

**Subject:** Carbon Abatement Pathways: Buildings wash-up web session  
**Location:** Zoom  
**Start:** Mon 24/08/2020 10:00  
**End:** Mon 24/08/2020 12:00  
**Show Time As:** Tentative  
**Recurrence:** (none)  
**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded  
**Organizer:** s. 40(2)

UPDATED:  
Dear all,

Please find below the joining instructions for the Buildings webinar for the Carbon Abatement Pathways Policy co-design process. The webinars will build on the inputs received from the surveys and draw out key themes as well as gathering further input that will help us design the Roadmap to Carbon Negative.

If you don't intend to join the meeting, please could you decline this invitation so that we can keep track of numbers attending. The webinar will be recorded and will be shared via link access to attendees and invitees unable to attend.

The agenda is below and the slides for discussion are attached. Prior to the workshop, I would request that you take a brief look through the slides and come prepared with some thoughts on:

- The principles for the approach York & North Yorkshire should take to decarbonising buildings
- Policy ideas that can achieve study findings that are currently indicated as amber (Policy RAG Rating Slide)
- What their organisation's role will be in delivering these policies / policy areas they can lead on

Session agenda:

- Co-creating a Roadmap Towards Carbon Negative for York & North Yorkshire – process outline
- Session Aims & Outputs
- Key Insights from Stakeholder Consultation
- Discussion: Key principles, policy & gaps
- Wrap-up & Next Steps

Thanks and kind regards,

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**From:** s. 40(2)  
**To:** s. 40(2)

[Redacted]

**Cc:** s. 40(2)  
**Subject:** Carbon Abatement Pathways: Buildings wash-up web session  
**Attachments:** [Buildings Slides 24th Aug 2020.pptx](#)

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**Subject:** Planning Quarterly Update  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting  
**Start:** Wed 30/06/2021 17:30  
**End:** Wed 30/06/2021 19:00  
**Recurrence:** (none)  
**Meeting Status:** Accepted  
**Organizer:** DemocraticServices

Good afternoon

Just to remind you that the next Planning Quarterly Update for all Members is taking place tomorrow evening at 5:30pm. The agenda for this event is focussed around local plan site delivery and comprises two items:

- A presentation and Q&A session delivered by Homes England on their role and the purpose of their involvement in site delivery within the district (Homes England will leave the meeting when this item has concluded)
- A presentation and Q&A session by officers on the scope and purpose of the West Harrogate Parameters Plan and an update on progress and next steps

We look forward to seeing you

s. 40(2) and the rest of the team

Good afternoon

The first of this year's Planning Quarterly updates is to be held on the 30 June at 17:30, this session will be held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Please can you let us know if you will be attending by accepting or declining this invitation?

To join the meeting simply use the link below.

Kind regards

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