



HOUSING VISION

# Business Area Summary: Policy Review

Client: Your organisation

## HOUSING VISION

Established in 2001, Housing Vision has now completed over 120 projects for clients across the housing sector and throughout the country.

Housing Vision has a substantial track record of undertaking challenging reviews of policies, strategies and their effectiveness, and with a view to refinement, revision or replacement.

Such reviews have been undertaken across a wide range of policy areas from housing and planning to public health and social care.

## OUR EXPERTISE

Housing Vision is well-known for its skills and experience in policy review and analysis, and for its practical advice and policy recommendations.

Housing Vision can offer expertise in:

- Reviews of existing policies and strategies, their effectiveness and potential
- Identifying the 'vision' which needs to guide effective policies, and the challenges which it will have to face
- Locating policies and strategies in the context of the changing national framework
- Constructing the underpinning intelligence base which informs effective policies and strategies are based
- Establishing priorities and actions in substance and detail
- Confirming the policy and strategic direction through detailed consultation in all forms from e-survey to face to face.

Housing Vision can offer all these services within one project or individually.

## OUTPUT

We provide plain English reports making use of geographical information mapping, tables and graphs to visualise data and information.

## OUR TRACK RECORD

Key policy areas in which we have undertaken reviews are:

### ***Improving effectiveness and realising potential***

These have included:

- Research to identify the role and potential of the **private rented sector and intermediate housing market** in the West Midlands
- A study of **low cost home ownership and** the intermediate housing market in the East Midlands, for the East Midlands Regional Assembly and the Housing Corporation
- For Bromsgrove District Council, research into the extent of **under-occupation in registered social housing** and of the options available to reduce it
- Analysis of the **effectiveness and impact of two major regeneration schemes** for Birmingham City Council and Waterloo HA

### ***Public health and social care***

- Working with GLHS and commissioned by the West Midlands Regional Housing Executive and the NHS, identifying the contribution that regional housing policy can make to health outcomes. The report reviewed all West Midlands Joint Strategic Needs Assessments;

identified the main **housing and health** interactions and the positive impact which housing can have on health.

- The production with HQN of an **older persons'** accommodation and support strategy for Durham County required the construction of an evidence base combining research and geographical analysis to identify priority areas for intervention; the relationship between supply and demand and projections of future need.
- Working with HQN for the Association of North East Councils, a project to establish the **scale of hidden homelessness** in the North East. Geographical and statistical analysis provided an evidence base underpinning reviews of policy and good practice.

#### ***Options to accelerate the delivery of affordable housing***

- For the South HMA of the West Midlands, a review of options to **accelerate the delivery of affordable housing**
- For Bristol City Council, Bath and North-East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire District Councils, an independent review of HomesWest, the sub-region's **affordable housing delivery partnership**
- Research to investigate the options for increasing the supply of **larger affordable homes** in the Birmingham sub-region
- For the Commission for Rural Communities, research to improve the **delivery of affordable rural housing** through the use of Section 106 Planning Agreements, rural Exception Sites and Community Land Trusts

#### **WE ALSO OFFER**

Housing Vision has completed projects for local authorities and housing associations; the private sector and sub-regional consortia, and regional and national bodies including the CRC and HCA. We can offer the following core services:

##### **Dynamic Area Profiles**

GIS-based profiles of user-defined areas incorporating demographic, housing, health, education and socio-economic data to provide 20 year projections of change.

##### **Site/Place-Based Housing Market Assessment**

We have undertaken over 50 Assessments to determine the market potential of sites proposed for development, including affordable housing requirements.

##### **Strategic Housing Market Assessment**

We have completed analyses of housing need and housing market dynamics at local authority and sub-regional levels throughout the country.

##### **Neighbourhood Sustainability Appraisals**

We construct social, economic and housing profiles to determine the sustainability of local housing areas, then identify the interventions required to secure their future.

##### **Research and Intelligence**

We undertake challenging and original research, for example a Sheltered and Extra Care Housing Sustainability toolkit and analysis of the interrelationship between housing and health.

##### **Strategic Development**

We work with officers and stakeholders to develop housing and related policies and strategies at sub-regional, local authority and neighbourhood levels.



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