

24 JULY 2002

REVIEW OF ENGLISH PARTNERSHIPS OUTLINES NEW ROLE

The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, today concluded the Review of English Partnerships by outlining its new role as a key delivery agency in the government's new 'living communities' agenda to regenerate our towns, cities and rural areas.

English Partnerships' new role will centre on:

- Ensuring effective co-ordination of plans for key worker and affordable housing by working closely with the Housing Corporation and other key agencies such as Regional Development Agencies (RDAs)
- Advising on development of surplus government land and buildings that can help create new communities where they are most needed
- Assisting with the assembly of sites for regeneration and sustainable development
- Developing and maintaining a national brownfield strategy, which will include best practice guidance on assembly, remediation and development of land and buildings
- Operating its innovative programmes - including the National Coalfields Programme, Millennium Communities, Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs), English Cities Fund, National Land Use Database (NLUD), Land Stabilisation Programme, www.englishsites.com and Priority Sites – and developing new ideas for extending good practice
- Managing a regime enabling developers to use approved 'gap' funding for the delivery of housing projects that would otherwise be commercially unviable

Today's announcement also confirmed an initial list of more than 40 sites (attached) which would be retained for development. Work on the identification of sites for transfer is ongoing.

English Partnerships' Chairman, Margaret Ford, endorsed today's announcement as a watershed in the evolution of English Partnerships' remit:

"We welcome the clarity brought to our role by the Deputy Prime Minister and are absolutely delighted to have this vital new agenda to take forward.

... / ...

“English Partnerships is on the threshold of a great new future – focused, skilled and with real enthusiasm for creating communities where people really want to live and work. We will make the urban renaissance a reality by working closely with our partners to bring regeneration to areas of greatest need and addressing the demand for affordable housing. ‘Living communities’ are more than an aspiration – they are a social, economic and environmental imperative. This is our challenge and we are more than ready for the task.”

- ENDS -

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Notes to Editors

1. **The Review of English Partnerships** by its sponsoring department began in October 2001. The first stage findings were reported in March 2002 and today’s announcement concludes the second and final stage of the Review. English Partnerships’ new remit now focuses on four key areas:

Accommodating Housing Growth

- Ensuring effective co-ordination of plans for key worker and affordable housing by working closely with the Housing Corporation and other key agencies such as Regional Development Agencies (RDAs)
- Managing a ‘gap’ funding regime for the delivery of housing projects that would otherwise be commercially unviable

Re-Use of Brownfield Land for Sustainable Development

- Advising on development of surplus government land and buildings to help create new communities where they are most needed
- Developing and maintaining a national brownfield strategy, which will include best practice guidance on assembly, remediation and development of land and buildings
- Delivering ongoing initiatives such as the National Coalfields Programme, National Land Use Database (NLUD), www.englishsites.com, Land Stabilisation Programme and Priority Sites

Managing our Land Portfolio

- Managing a portfolio of more than 40 sites, to help deliver sustainable regeneration and new homes
- Assisting with the assembly of sites for regeneration and sustainable development

Demonstrating and Disseminating Best Practice

- Acting as the government’s principal advisor on brownfield regeneration, providing intelligence, expertise and funding in remediation and redevelopment
- Delivering demonstration projects and models which set new standards for design and sustainability, such as the Millennium Communities Programme and the Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs)
- Creating new initiatives to increase the skills, capacity and resources available for sustainable regeneration and high-quality environments

2. **Sites** retained for development have been identified in the following locations:

	LOCATION	SITE
	Eastern	
1	Basildon	Gardiners Lane
2	Basildon	Dry Street
3	Basildon	Five Links (Phase 2)
4	Harlow	Sports Centre
5	Hatfield	Town Centre
6	Hemel Hempstead	Spencers Park
7	Hemel Hempstead	Paradise Fields
8	Hemel Hempstead	Breakspear
9	Stevenage	Town Centre
10	Stevenage	West Stevenage
11	Peterborough	Various sites
	North East	
12	Middlesbrough	Middlehaven
13	Stockton	North Bank
14	Stockton	Haverton Hill
	North West	
15	Liverpool	Kings Waterfront
16	Liverpool	Liverpool Land Development Co. sites
17	Preston	Preston East
18	Preston	Cuerdon Regional Business Park
19	Runcorn	Castlefields
20	Skelmersdale	Town Centre
21	Warrington	Omega
	Yorkshire and the Humber	
22	Sheffield	Various sites in the URC
	East Midlands	
23	Corby	Various sites in the URC
24	Northampton	SW District Phase 1
25	Northampton	SW District Phases 2 and 3
	West Midlands	
26	Telford	Town Centre
27	Telford	South Telford (Woodside)
28	Telford	Lightmoor
29	Telford	East Ketley Millennium Community
30	Telford	Lawley
	South West	
31	Weston-super-Mare	RAF Locking
	South East	
32	Crawley	Expansion sites
33	Crawley	Town Centre
34	Milton Keynes	Central MK / Campbell Park
35	Milton Keynes	Oak Grove Millennium Community
36	Milton Keynes	Bletchley / MK Stadium
37	Milton Keynes	Broughton Atterbury
38	Milton Keynes	East Flank
39	Milton Keynes	West Flank
40	Milton Keynes	National Bowl / East Ashland
	London	
41	Greenwich	Greenwich Peninsula including the Millennium Community
	Cross-regional	
42	Various	Key Worker Housing Initiative sites