

The Affordable Rural Housing Commission

Jo.Lavis
Affordable Housing Team and ARHC secretariat
Defra

What is the purpose of ARHC?

- Set up following government manifesto commitment

To find new ways of improving access to affordable housing in rural areas

- Will report to ODPM and Defra Secretaries of State
- Spring 06

Who is the ARHC?

- Chair Elinor Goodman
- Members 11
 - Community
 - Environmental
 - Land and business
 - Delivery
- Joint secretariat provided by Defra and ODPM

What will it look at?

- Aim to provide practical solutions and pragmatic recommendations
- Work to be structured around 4 themes:
 - Land and business
 - Financial Support
 - Policy integration
 - Local and community governance

How will it work?

- Collection of evidence by:
 - Policy papers
 - Bespoke evidence
 - Website
 - Written submissions
 - Hearings
 - Regional visits
 - Seeing good practice
- www.defra.gov.uk/rural/housing/commission

Regional Visits

- Hearings
- Visiting good practice
- Public involvement

- Look across all issues

How many Commissions does it take to.....?

- Commission for Rural Communities Inquiry
 - What is the experience for the individual
 - Listening to those often unheard
 - Will form part of the CRC evidence to the ARHC
- Affordable Rural Housing Commission
 - Focus on those devising policy and delivering affordable housing (Institutional perspective)
 - Open door to government
- They complement one another

Some very, very, early pointers

- Exception sites
- Perpetuity
- Rural Voice at regional level