



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Agenda Item No. 1.3

Housing and Communities Committee

Wednesday 3 November 2021

Public questions

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
1.	Debbie Craxton	Councillor Lewis Herbert – Chair of the Housing and Communities Committee	The Combined Authority has announced that existing CLT projects and commitments “will be reassessed against a new set of principles” to be developed and debated”. Can the Combined Authority confirm whether these principles will include the need for legitimate community engagement, transparency and democracy within those CLT projects and commitments?

No.	Response from:	Response to:	Response:
	Councillor Lewis Herbert – Chair of the Housing and Communities Committee	Debbie Craxton	<p>Thank you for your question Debbie.</p> <p>The Combined Authority has, as one of its key objectives, the delivery of additional affordable housing to benefit our many different rural and urban communities. Including delivering as much as humanly possible of the £70 million plus of Government initial affordable housing funding by the deadline of March 2022. Working closely with providers, local council delivery and local</p>

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			<p>communities, and Dept of LUHC. And working to continue delivery in the future and seek further funding.</p> <p>The words you quote were indeed in a Housing Principles report that was brought to the last Housing Committee on 6th September. But as the minutes of that meeting will show, while there was a strong vote in favour of them, the majority at the meeting and therefore the Committee did not agree the principles or that detailed wording as Combined Authority policy then. The minutes also record comments from Committee members on the day.</p> <p>I wrote the principles including 6 on Community Supported Housing Schemes. The total wording of that Principle 6 reflect my views as Housing Portfolio Holder and also Mayor Nik Johnson's. And they chime with the Mayor's and CA commitment to compassion, co-operation and communities.</p> <p>The Leader of East Cambridgeshire District Council has written to the Mayor about taking back responsibility for Community Land trusts in East Cambridgeshire, reversing a change that occurred at the end of 2019, and the Combined Authority has no active work currently linked to it developing Community Land Trusts in the district. Community Housing support within East Cambridgeshire is now being provided by East Cambridgeshire District Council.</p> <p>A fuller report on past and future Combined Authority work across its area on Community Land Trusts and local community supported housing will come to the next Housing Committee in January 2022. We believe there is a consensus in favour of further Combined Authority work on Community Supported Housing schemes of all types, but allowing local authorities to decide their local delivery, and no new CA initiatives will be undertaken without the support of the respective local authority.</p> <p>I expect that report will propose the engagement of an experienced and principled and respected independent Community Homes consultancy to advise on schemes that the CA is directly involved in, including the importance of legitimate community engagement, transparency and democracy. A new set of housing principles will be developed in 2022 by the Combined Authority as part a new</p>

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			strategy to secure and support the delivery of Affordable Housing beyond the expiry of the current Affordable Housing programme.