

## **Statement by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning**

**10 April 2012**

### **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

The procurement of specialist support to deliver a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is underway. Invitations to quote went out on 28 February with a deadline of 28 March. The aim is to have the CIL Charging Schedule in place by late summer 2013. The statutory deadline is April 2014 after which time the scope to use S106 Agreements will be reduced.

### **Planning Enforcement**

A review is underway of the Enforcement Service established by the Development Management Shared Service Business Case (November 2010). The aim will be to improve satisfaction with the Service and specifically to deal with Member and community concerns about dealing with breaches of planning control in a timely and effective way.

### **Housing Provision**

The provision of new housing and affordable housing are Council priorities. To achieve this it is engaging positively with developers in pre-application work in order to get applications before Planning Committee as soon as possible and then granting planning permission quickly where it can. Since the Allocations DPD was adopted the Council has either granted planning permission or indicated that it is minded to grant planning permission for about 1,500 dwellings. The latter includes the "Sowerby Gateway" development. In addition there are a further 380 dwellings where planning permission may be granted over the next six months.

However, despite the permissions being granted, housing completions remain at a low level mainly because of the difficulties in first time buyers securing mortgages and the effects of the recession.

The position with LDF allocated sites is reported to the Area Forums each quarter.

### **Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)**

The Council's information on the need for additional pitches is out of date and requires refreshing; this was evident in determining the recent planning application at Great Broughton. Work is therefore to be commissioned to get an up-to-date understanding of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in Hambleton. The work will focus on how many additional pitches are required and precisely where in the District the need arises. The aim is to act quickly to make sure we have strong evidence in place to support our decisions, and to have completed the work by the end of the summer.

**Councillor Mark Robson**  
**Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning**