

Press Release September 2009

Northern Housing Consortium Members meet Grant Shapps

Last week saw the Shadow Housing Minister, Grant Shapps, MP, meeting Northern Housing Consortium members. Over a lunch meeting organised by the Northern Housing Consortium, Members engaged in a broad ranging discussion with the Conservative spokesperson for Housing addressing issues such as emerging Conservative thinking around regeneration, ways in which we can deliver more housing, the impact of public spending cuts and likely priorities for a potential Conservative Government. Charlotte Harrison, Director of Policy and Practice commented, "We were very pleased that Grant Shapps was able to meet with our Members. A key role for the Consortium is connecting policy makers to our Members and ensuring that not only are the needs and aspirations of the North recognised but that the first class best practice we're rightly proud of is shared nationally. With a general election pending, its key that we maintain housing in the spotlight. The ethos of the Consortium is based on working together to deliver effective solutions and our discussions with the Shadow Minister were very much in that vein."

For more information, visit www.northern-consortium.org.uk

Notes to editors

1. The Northern Housing Consortium is a non-political, not for profit, member based organisation, whose members between them manage almost 90% of social housing in the North. Our main roles are:
 - To provide a comprehensive range of timely, relevant and affordable services for members with a distinct focus on Northern issues
 - To take a lead role in enabling the improvement of housing and organisational performance in the North
 - To work with Government and other bodies to ensure the region benefits from the resources and funding available to provide safe, vibrant, sustainable communities

Our provision of support is delivered across four themed areas: Quality of Life, Quality of Place, Performance Improvement and Investment & Resources.