## **Stewart Baseley**

## HBF Future Talent Conference July 5, 2017









### Housing shortfall presents opportunity





#### Housing affordability races out of control





#### A seismic change over the course of a generation 1997 2013



# Housing's high priority in this campaign reflects consensus on need for more homes

#### 2005

- Right to Buy
- Green Belt
- Crack down on traveller camps



#### 2017

- 240-250k homes p.a. by 2021
- Implement Housing White Paper
- Green Belt
- New build quality
- Capture land value more efficiently
- Address leasehold abuses
- Powers for housing associations and councils to build more

- First-Time Buyers Initiative
  - Support for housing association and council tenants who wish to buy



- Extend Help to Buy
- 'First dibs' on new homes for locals
- Minimum space standards New build quality
- Address leasehold abuses
- Establish 'Department of Housing'
- 100k affordable homes per year
- 1m homes over (1/2 affordable)

Labour

Conservatives

- 100,000 affordable homes p.a.
- Brownfield first
- Increase SDLT threshold
- Planning class for holiday homes



- 300k homes p.a. by 2022
- Scrap small site AH exemptions
- 100k affordable homes per year
- Housing and Infrastructure Bank
- 10 Garden Cities
- Double council tax for second homes



#### Output continuing to increase









## Forward indicators point to further increases – NPPF is delivering record numbers of plots





## A million homes 2015-2020

- Achievability of target was widely doubted in 2014/15
- 190,000 in first year of target period
- 2.7% annual growth required to 2020
- Eminently achievable provided stability:
  - Economic
  - Political
  - Policy
- Looming shadow of Brexit but no evidence of major changes in the market to date
- Conservative manifesto raises target for last two years of next parliament to 500k



### White paper builds on policy framework





#### **KEY CHALLENGES**





## Political and policy environment

- New government with some new ministers
- Challenging aspects to the Housing White Paper proposals
- Brexit will dominate policy, political and legislative agendas for much of the next three years
- ... But industry remains under intense focus
- Continue to build capacity to get close to 250k new homes per year – new recruits and new builders

#### DIVERSIFYING THE INDUSTRY: THE POTENTIAL OF SMALLER BUILDERS – AND THE BENEFITS THAT BRINGS TO NATIONAL BUILDERS

#### Reversing the decline of small housebuilders:

Reinvigorating entrepreneurialism and building more homes





'Returning to 2007 levels of SMEs could help produce 25,000 more new homes per year' (*Reversing the Decline of Small Housebuilders,* HBF)





## Other than finance SME issues largely mirror those of large builders but have bigger impact

- Land and Planning
  - Too few suitable sites
  - Delays and uncertainty in the planning process
  - Difficulty obtaining permission to develop sustainable infill sites
- Other red tape
  - Water provision and charges
  - Highways

Promoting improvements for SMEs will bring benefits for all home builders

Housing White Paper seeks to address the role of SMEs with provision of small sites and delays and risk in the planning process



## Home Building Skills Partnership

Already starting to deliver, workstreams emerging

Key priority for next 12/24 months

## CITB

Reviewing how we respond to levy consultation

Need to ensure we are getting value for money Imperative it dovetails with wider Government apprentice levy Also reviewing how we respond to wider Government consultation into CITB







#### Leasehold





### Quality

#### Intense political and media focus

HBF working group looking at how we address recommendations

Government has announced it will review APPG

> Inevitably going to be some issues – key is how they are addressed

HBF trying to ensure there is balance in reporting

Huge increase in output undoubtedly increased pressure

Overall CSS score dropped 1%



### HBF's Quality Working Group

Chaired by Stephen Stone with sub-groups now developing workstreams for each of the recommendations of the APPG including:

An independent review of the Consumer Code and how it would compare to a New Homes Ombudsman

Possibility of minimum build quality and inspection standards?

➢Guidance on information to be included in Customer Information Packs

Standardisation of sales contracts

Updating the CML process and developing some standard industry QA processes

Minimum warranty standards?

Consult members on changes to CSS following Ipsos Mori review

An industry 'charter' for quality and service that incorporates these changes that members can sign up to



#### Changing attitudes and expectations of buyers

- Twitter in 2006 400,000 tweets posted per quarter.
- Twitter in 2017 350,000 tweets per minute. (500m per day)



- Importance of *perception:* Consumers report expending more energy dealing with organisations
- Ease of dealing with new companies using modern platforms has affected attitudes and perceptions

## UBER



- Unhappy customers can compare notes with others around the country
- Journalists mining Twitter for disgruntled customers house builders in the spotlight (HtB, quality, profits, leasehold)





Acute housing shortage / affordability issues Housing will remain a priority, regardless of who in power

Challenges remain

But there is opportunity for companies to grow

And so for career progression and development





