



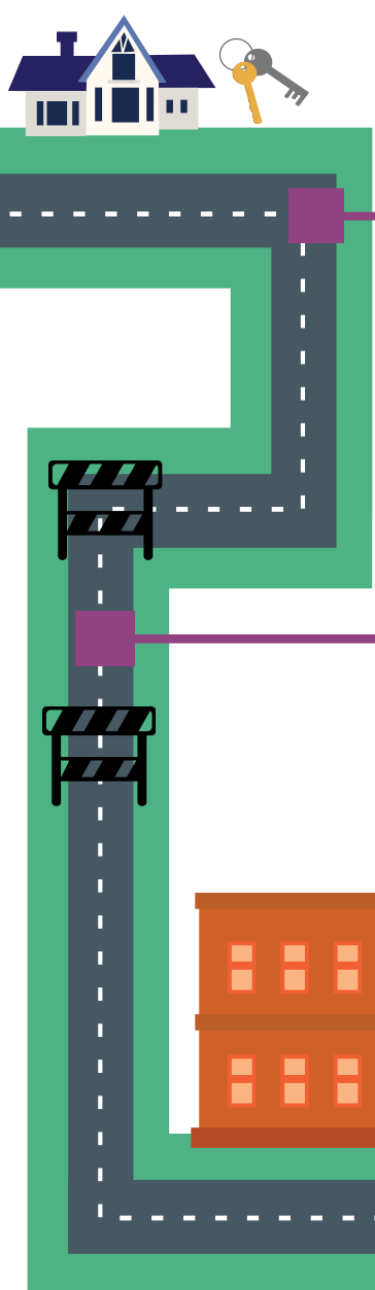
Delivering Joined-up Planning In Counties

Joining up and scaling up planning and infrastructure functions in counties



The Government's Housing White Paper looks to give a shot in the arm to the planning system, setting out measures to progress strategic planning.

The paper recognises the need to join up planning and infrastructure to ensure local areas are able to take up local development and grow their economies. Below, CCN outlines why counties need to be integral to this.



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Counties face the highest housing pressures and contain the least affordable homes compared to earnings outside of London. This means people struggling to get onto the housing ladder or having to move away from their communities.

INFRASTRUCTURE GAPS

In many counties planning and infrastructure considerations are split between individual districts and county councils.

This creates a fragmented approach to infrastructure provision, and missed opportunities to work together to identify suitable areas for development.

JOINING UP & SCALING UP

An increased focus on strategic planning, which supports counties and districts to work together at scale could help overcome some of these challenges.

This could join up planning and infrastructure, allowing homes to be targeted to the most appropriate areas. Ensuring that public services, roads, and amenities are in place to mitigate pressures on towns and communities.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Government recognises that objections to local development is a major barrier in creating homes the country desperately needs.

A more aligned system will ensure the building blocks are already in place in communities - new schools, roads, schools, and other public services. This will help allay concerns of local residents and representatives, removing the barriers to local housebuilding.

