

Housing Delivery Incentives Scheme: Developer Guide (2016)

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1 Introduction

- 1.1** This is a new scheme which North Norfolk District Council has decided to introduce for a trial period. The scheme will operate between the 1st of January 2016 and the 30th December 2016. During this period the Council reserves the right to amend or withdraw the scheme at any time.
- 1.2** The purpose of the scheme is to incentivise the quick delivery of developments which have been granted planning permission, and to encourage applications and house building on those sites which are allocated for development in the adopted North Norfolk Site Allocations Development Plan or are in locations where planning permission would normally be granted. The scheme is not intended to allow building in locations where planning permission would not normally be approved.
- 1.3** The scheme includes three separate types of incentive, some of which will need to be specifically applied for. All incentives are available for a temporary period (until Dec 2016) and are subject to commitments to start and/or deliver development quickly. They will only apply therefore in cases where applicants are prepared to accept either short time limited planning permissions and/or can agree to complete an agreed level of development within an agreed specific time period.
- 1.4** Other than in relation to Incentive 1, entry to the scheme is by formal application and a specific form is available for this purpose. Applications to take part in the scheme will normally only be accepted at the same time as applying for planning permission. Sites which hold existing planning permissions, where development has not started, may be considered but applicants should note that a further planning application may be required to vary conditions attached to the existing planning permission. Advice should be sought from a planning officer prior to making an application.

2 Available Incentives

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- 2.1 The incentives that are available comprise the temporary relaxation of certain current policy requirements which are normally applied to planning applications, including:

Incentive 1 - Affordable Housing (1)

Increasing the number of dwellings which will be permitted on a development before seeking a contribution towards affordable housing. The Council will allow schemes of up to 9 dwellings (new build and conversions) without seeking contributions towards affordable housing. This incentive relates to the affordable housing usually made available via a Housing Association or similar registered social landlord. Smaller, lower cost housing for sale will continue to be required within larger schemes (Policy H01 of the adopted Core Strategy). This incentive is available for outline, reserved matters and full planning applications on request.

Incentive 2 - Affordable Housing (2)

Reducing the quantity of affordable housing to 20% on large scale development proposals of 10 dwellings or more in defined parts of the district (see 'Appendix 2: Affordable Housing Zones Map'). This is available in association with full and reserved matters planning applications only where quick implementation and phased delivery of development is agreed. This incentive is not available for outline planning applications and is only available by formal application.

Incentive 3 - Renewable Energy

Relaxing the requirement that part of the schemes energy needs should be generated from on-site renewable sources. This is available in association with full and reserved matters applications only where quick implementation and phased development is agreed. This incentive is not available for outline planning applications and is only available by formal application.

- 2.2 These incentives will only be available where applicants accept a short time limited planning permission and/or complete an agreement to start, or partly complete, the approved development within an agreed time period as outlined in the Scheme Conditions and an approved Schedule of Works.

Scheme Eligibility 3

3 Scheme Eligibility

- 3.1** The scheme is intended to apply to most types of residential development which results in the provision of permanent housing. Proposals for new build housing, building conversions, and proposals to remove restrictive occupancy controls such as holiday conditions will all be considered. Proposals for hostels, care homes and holiday homes are not eligible for these incentives.
- 3.2** Each of the Incentives is subject to a number of eligibility criteria and standard conditions:

Incentive 1 - Affordable Housing (1)

Available on all proposals for 9 or fewer dwellings provided as a result of either new build, conversion of buildings to residential dwellings and the removal of holiday and other restrictive occupancy conditions from dwellings. This incentive is solely available in association with planning applications where the applicant accepts a condition requiring commencement of development within one year in the case of full applications and two years in the case of outline applications and building conversion schemes. Sites which already have planning permission are not eligible unless a further planning application is made.

Incentive 2 - Affordable Housing (2)

This is available on proposals for 10 or more dwellings provided via new build, building conversion, or the removal of restrictive occupancy controls. It is only available in defined parts of the district (see 'Appendix 2: Affordable Housing Zones Map'). For new build proposals and conversion proposals that secure full or reserved matters planning approval a separate legal obligation will be required to ensure construction is undertaken in accordance with an agreed Schedule of Works.

Incentive 3 - Renewable Energy

Available on all planning applications for residential development of 10 or more dwellings (except for proposals to lift restrictive occupancy conditions from buildings that have already been converted). For new build proposals and conversion proposals that secure full or reserved matters planning approval a separate legal obligation will be required to ensure construction is undertaken in accordance with an agreed Schedule of Works (see section 4).

Other Scheme Conditions

- 3.3** To be considered for participation under the scheme the following will apply:
- The development proposal must usually be the subject of a current undetermined planning application. It may be acceptable to apply for the incentives after the grant of planning permission but applicants will need to check the terms and conditions of the planning permission and the need or otherwise to make a further application to vary planning conditions and or vary an existing legal agreement. A request under this Incentive scheme does not constitute a revised planning approval.

3 Scheme Eligibility

- Those proposals which only seek outline planning permission will not qualify for incentives 2 and 3 which are only available at Reserved Matters or Full Planning application stage.
- In the case of proposals involving ten or more dwellings a Section 106 Agreement will be required. A standard template is available for this purpose. This obligation will require development to be commenced and partly constructed within agreed time-frames and include a fall-back position in relation to failure to comply with the agreed timetable.
- In relation to incentives 2 and 3 applicants must be the freeholder of the site or have an option to purchase the site from the current owner upon the grant of planning permission or shortly thereafter.
- Applicants must confirm that all other consents are, or will be, in place to allow the development to progress quickly. This will include confirmation of resolution of any legal issues, building regulations approval, and confirmation that development finance is in place.
- Applications will need to include a detailed Schedule of Works and include a specific commitment in a legal agreement to complete an agreed proportion of the approved development within 18 months of the grant of planning permission, together with an obligation to complete the development in accordance with the agreed fall-back position in the event of the schedule of works not being completed.
- The associated planning application/permission should be sufficiently detailed to allow for rapid commencement of development without the need for further approval of outstanding matters. There should be no significant outstanding conditions requiring the submission and approval of further details. For example, full details of construction materials, landscaping, surfacing, and boundary treatments should all be included within the planning application or have already been agreed and there should be no outstanding requirements in relation to issues such as land contamination or wildlife surveys and protection.

3.4 Access to the incentives scheme may be declined if these conditions are not met.

Compliance with the Schedule of Works 4

4 Compliance with the Schedule of Works

- 4.1** The purpose of the Housing Delivery Incentive Scheme is to deliver development quickly. If development is not built in accordance with the agreed timetable the scheme incentives shall be withdrawn in relation to the remaining development to be completed.
- 4.2** If works are commenced but sufficient works are not completed in accordance with the agreed Schedule of Works, full compliance with the terms and conditions of the planning permission will be required. This will be controlled via the imposition of conditions on the relevant planning permission and / or within a Section 106 Agreement as appropriate.

5 Next Steps

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- 5.1** Applications to take part in the scheme should not be made without prior discussion with the Planning Authority. This enables appropriate advice to be given and to establish if your proposals are likely to be eligible.
- 5.2** If you are interested in taking part in the scheme please contact:

Mark Ashwell
Planning Policy Manager
01263 516325
mark.ashwell@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Application Form



2016 APPLICATION FORM

North Norfolk Housing Delivery Incentives Scheme

Please note. Before completing this form it is recommended that you read the 'Housing Delivery Incentives Scheme: Developer Guide' document. Information provided on this form and any supporting documentation will be made available for public inspection. Notes on completing this application form are shown at the end.

APPLICANT DETAILS

1

Name

Address

Email

Tel

AGENT DETAILS (IF APPLICABLE)

2

Name

Address

Email

Tel

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT

3

Please give the description of the development as detailed in the planning application.

INCENTIVES

4

Which of the available Housing Incentives are you applying for?

Incentive 2 - Affordable Housing

Incentive 3 - Renewable Energy

SCHEDULE OF WORKS

5

Please provide a short description of the development included with the Schedule of Works which are proposed to be completed within 18 months of the date of planning permission being granted.

ENCLOSURES

6

Please confirm you have included the following enclosures with your application:

- This completed application form**
- A scaled plan showing the site to which the application relates**
- A Schedule of Works describing Phase 1 of the development**
- A draft Section 106 legal agreement incorporating the standard obligations**

DECLARATION (DELETE AS APPROPRIATE)

I/the applicant is the freehold owner of the site

I/The applicant has a legally binding option to buy the site

I confirm I have served notice on the land owner of this application

Name

Signature

Organisation

Date

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Please return this completed form and all relevant enclosures to:

Planning Policy Team
North Norfolk District Council
Holt Road
Cromer
Norfolk
NR27 9EN

planningpolicy@north-norfolk.gov.uk

01263 516318

Notes on completing the application form

Section 1

Please complete your full name, address and contact details.

Section 2

Please complete the full name, address and contact details of any agent you are using in relation to your incentives application. All correspondence and other communication will be sent via **your appointed agent** unless you advise otherwise.

Section 3

This description should match the description of the proposed development used on the associated planning application.

Section 4

You may apply for one or more of the available incentives using this form. Indicate which incentive you are applying for by ticking the appropriate boxes.

Section 5

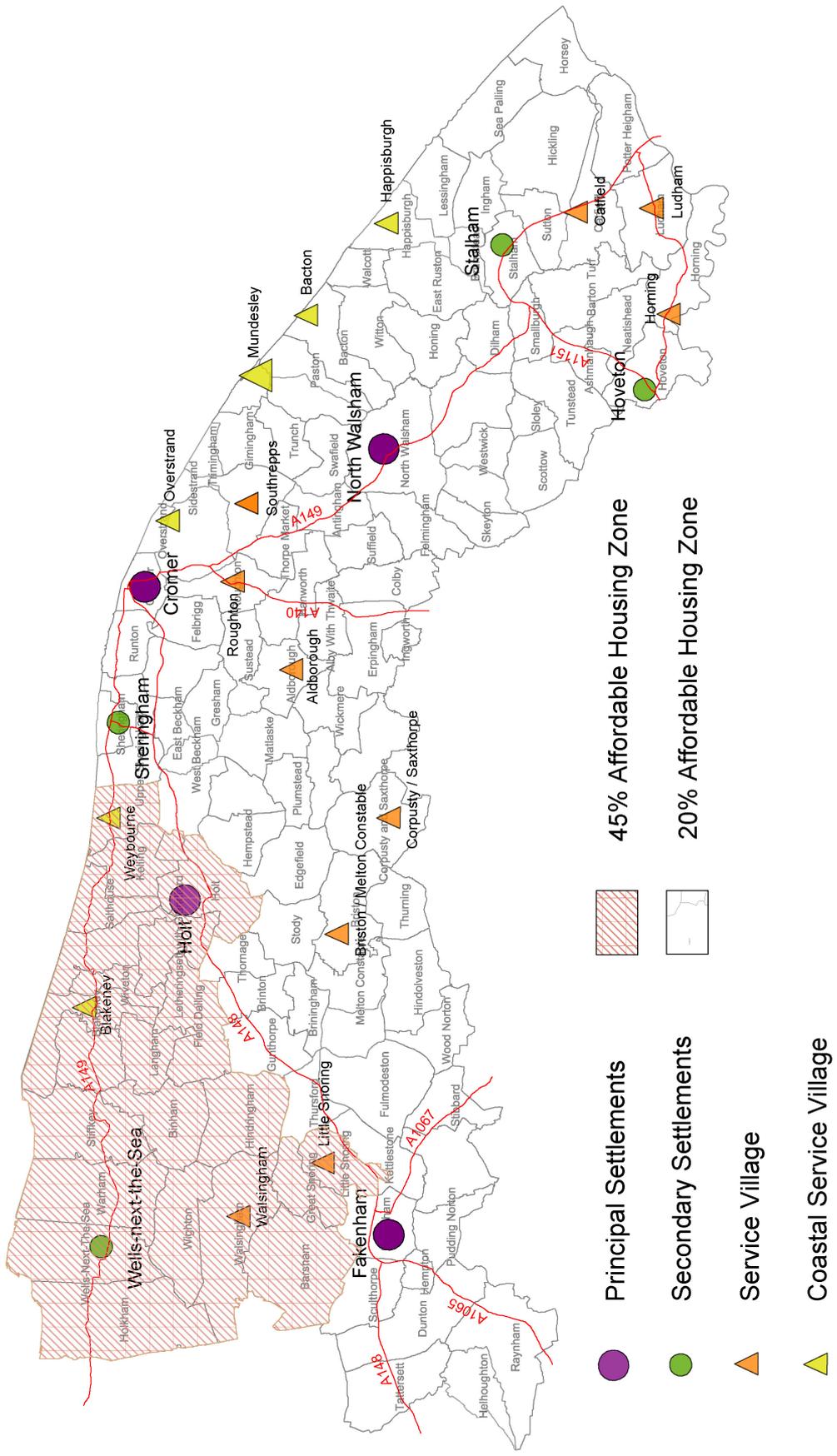
Complete this section by providing a short written summary of your proposed Schedule of Works which you intend to complete within 18 months of the grant of planning permission. The extent of these works should have been discussed with a planning officer prior to making this application.

Section 6

Your application will not be accepted unless **all** of the listed enclosures are included.

Appendix 2: Affordable Housing Zones Map

Appendix 2: Affordable Housing Zones Map



Affordable Housing Zones (Incentive 2)