

Local Government Group Alert 34/11

To:

Chief executives in England and Wales

Please circulate to those responsible for:

Housing, Planning, Finance, Neighbourhoods and Private sector renewals

23 February 2011

Changing the way we do housing

Dear Colleague,

The coalition government is making significant reforms to elements of England's housing system – including housing policy and finance, planning and welfare support. Localities will have some new powers to make decisions about the amount of new housing to be built, the use of existing social housing and how best to employ local resources. When combined with massive reductions in public expenditure it is clear that social housing will play a different role in many communities. The role of local government in housing must change and housing practitioners will need to work in new ways.

The LG Group will run a series of **free** seminars on the changing housing agenda during March. Monday 14 March 2011, Birmingham, Friday 18 March 2011, Leeds, Monday 21 March 2011, London, Tuesday 22 March 2011, Bristol, Thursday 24 March 2011, Liverpool.

Delegates can expect:

- an update on how the latest policy changes will affect local authorities in their landlord and strategic roles
- to hear from experienced practitioners on how they are planning ahead to meet the new challenges
- to reflect, discuss and exchange ideas with peers on how these changes might play out in their localities

This event will be relevant both to councillors and officers who are new to this agenda and to those that have some experience.

For programme updates and to book your place please visit the events page of the Local Government Group website: www.local.gov.uk/events or call LGconnect on 020 7664 3131.

Yours sincerely