

press release

21 November 2011
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Housebuilders respond to Government's housing strategy

Responding to the release of the Housing Strategy for England by the Coalition government this morning, Julia Evans, Chief Executive of the Housebuilders Association (a division of the National Federation of Builders) said:

"We welcome the clear connection made between economic growth and recovery, and building more new homes. Houses are being built at half the levels of 2007, and lending also remains at half the levels of 2007. Housebuilding has seen the lowest output since the 1920s, and so these initiatives are vital to kickstart the housing sector, create jobs and homes, and grow the economy.

"Clearly many of the details about some of the initiatives, including the mortgage indemnity scheme and the Get Britain Building Investment Fund are yet to be known. We must also ensure that access to new mortgages and development funds is spread fairly between smaller and larger developers to achieve greatest economic benefit.

"Equally local authorities must be responsible in preparing up to date plans which include sufficient housing for their areas. We hope that, having announced these initiatives, the Government will ensure that there is effective follow through with all those involved in making this strategy work."

ENDS

Word Count: 194

Editors notes:

- 1) The House Builders Association is a division of the National Federation of Builders. It has almost 600 members and is numerically the largest representative body exclusively in the housebuilding industry. Its members are mainly, but not all, small and medium-sized housebuilders. Thus, HBA represents virtually the full industry spectrum, apart from the very largest companies and its membership is typical of those building the 40% of homes not built by the largest volume housebuilders
- 2) The NFB is one of the UK's longest established trade federations for small to medium-sized (SME) builders, contractors and house builders across England and Wales. It was created 150 years ago to represent the building profession and to help create the conditions for its members to thrive and contribute to the economic success of the UK. Its members range from the sole trader to large, multi-million pound construction companies, with turnover ranging from below £500k to £500m plus. The NFB provides advice, training and business solutions to ensure members stay up to date.



press release

- 3) The NFB campaigns on the issues that impact the construction industry such as procurement, utilities, sustainability and funding. It represents the industry at government and industry forums and is an active media commentator and policy influencer.

For further information please contact Roger Humber, Strategic Policy Advisor for the House Builders Association on 01603 507855.