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## LAUNCH OF THE CLC GUIDE ON BECOMING A SMALL HOUSING DEVELOPER

The Construction Leadership Council (CLC) is delighted today to launch a new guide designed to help those starting out as small housing developers, or looking to do so, to become successful businesses.

Residential development is an exciting and rewarding field to work in and new entrants to the industry are important as they bring new ideas and refresh the lifeblood of the sector. New housing developers do, however, face a significant learning curve in understanding and negotiating the many elements, processes and rules involved in residential development – starting with the essentials such as land supply, finance and planning. With small developers responsible for only 10% of new build homes today compared to 40% in the 1980s, the CLC believes it is vital to encourage and help more aspiring developers to enter the industry.

The guide – entitled “[Becoming a small housing developer: advice and guidance from others in the new homes industry](#)” was the idea of Chris Carr of Cleethorpes-based Carr & Carr (Builders) Limited, Chair of the CLC SME Housing Subgroup and Vice President of the Federation of Master Builders who has championed its development. Its inspiration is to be a practical and accessible source of the advice and information that today’s small housing developers wish they had had when they themselves were starting out.

Small residential developers from all the main trade bodies with home builder members contributed collaboratively to the discussions on the content and structure of the guide and it is strongly supported by SME housing developers and their federations from across the housing sector.

Chris Carr said:

“The number of homes built by small, local developers has been dropping for decades and this guide is designed to help to reverse that decline. I hope it will be a useful starting point for those wanting to become house builders and help them to get spades in the ground. The guide contains the collective knowledge of seasoned house builders and many industry experts, and I know many of the developers wished they’d had something like this when starting out. Small house builders can be a key driver of growth for the UK, they deliver high quality homes using local workers, so I hope this guide goes some way to get more people into the industry and ultimately more homes built.”

John Slaughter, lead for the CLC Housing Working Group said:

“I have been delighted to support this important project. It is essential that we take all the steps we can to encourage and help more new entrants into residential development. The engagement and collaborative spirit that companies from a number of trade bodies have shown in working together to produce the new guide is a textbook example of how the CLC can convene people from across the industry to produce powerful and useful results.”

The SME Housing Subgroup will be working to ensure the guide is widely disseminated and to use it to help engage other housing stakeholders in discussions about how to improve the business environment for SME housing developers.

The CLC will be holding a webinar on the new guide on 18 January at 4.30pm. Register [here](#).

### Ends

#### About the Construction Leadership Council

The CLC’s mission is to provide sector leadership to the construction industry. The expanded CLC has twelve workstreams that operate collaboratively to address the biggest issues facing the sector. Workstreams include skills and inclusion, building safety, Net Zero and business models. The CLC is co-chaired by the Minister for Business and Industry, Nusrat Ghani and Mark Reynolds, Mace Group Chairman and Chief Executive.