

Kent County Council

Affordable Housing Select Committee

Biographies

Carol Cairns

Head of Home Ownership and Supply (South East), Homes England

As Head of Home Ownership and Supply for South East, Carol manages delivery of the Homes England affordable homes grant funding for the region and plays a lead role in driving up the scale and pace of affordable housing delivery, working closely with local authorities, registered providers of affordable housing and developers.

Carol has more than thirty years' experience as a project and programme manager, with fifteen years working for Homes England (and predecessor organisations). Over this time she has played a lead role in facilitating housing delivery of all tenures across a range of Homes England enabling and investment initiatives.

Shona Johnstone

Senior Strategy and Markets Manager, High Growth and New Settlements, Homes England

Shona joined Homes England in 2019 from the Department for Transport, where she worked on projects as varied as strategic road studies, solutions for Operation Stack and the consultation on the third runway at Heathrow. Prior to this she had a long career as a councillor in Cambridgeshire, leading the environment and transport and children's services portfolio, as well as Council Leader and lead for scrutiny. She was an LGA peer, providing advice and support to local authorities on a range of topics, including governance and environmental policy.

In her current role in Homes England, Shona provides leadership for housing proposals in the Thames Estuary and more broadly in areas of high affordability, along with the development of capacity within local government to respond to the government's challenge to build a million new homes over the course of the Parliament.