

Homes Leadership Group Meeting

Wednesday 4th February 2026

Date: Wednesday 4th February 2026

Attendees:

Rob Worboys (Lovell), Adrian Hill (Bellway), Amanda Turner (Mira Showers), Andrew Day & Anna Brown (Hill), Anthony Lavers (Taylor Wimpey), Diana Dzhambazova (Knauf Insulation), Emma Link (CITB), Helen Hamilton (Saint Gobain), Ian Llewellyn (Vistry), John Bowden (Keepmoat), John Pritchard (MJ Evans Construction), Jon Walker & Matt Gibb (MJ Gleeson), Gareth Rondel & Stephen Horridge (Barratt Redrow), Sophie Coyle, Holly Hansen-Maughan, Lucy Hunt and Katherine Say (Action Sustainability).

These meeting notes are to be read in conjunction with the agenda and final slide deck as circulated to all.

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Sophie introduced the meeting and outlined its purpose, which was to discuss the progress and outputs of the 25/26 financial year business plan and to give feedback on the proposed Homes Business Plan for 2026/27.

2. **Progress on FY25/26**

Sophie gave an overview of the 2025/2026 business plan, highlighting KPIs that have been reached so far. These included the Homes Conference in September 2025 at JCB and developing a case study video with M&J Evans around groundworkers.

2a. **Update: Embedding sustainability in commercial processes workshop**

- Rob (Lovell) will be trialing this workshop with his commercial team. It will be delivered by Anna Cantwell (Action Sustainability), who is adapting previous School content to make it very focused on commercial processes. The overall aim is to develop a commercial processes workshop which can then be offered to all partners.

Sophie then posed a series of questions to the group:

<p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would the proposed content suit your business requirements? • Are there any key content additions to the suggested themes? 	<p>Audience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the content appeal to the target audience: commercial teams? • Who else in the business would benefit from this workshop?
<p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should participants be able to do differently the day after the workshop? • How will you know the session has been worth the time investment? • Would follow-up tools, prompts or materials help embed the learning? 	<p>Delivery & Format</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What session length and format would work best for your teams? • What level of interactivity is realistic for this audience? • How do we incorporate real-world examples?

Key feedback was as follows:

Homes Leadership Group Meeting

Wednesday 4th February 2026

- All clients have the same broad required outcomes. The intervention points would be broadly similar across clients, including on-boarding processes, trade-specifications and procurement processes. The outcome for the workshop should be building capacity and capability in the teams.
- The workshop can be used to support commercial/procurement teams to have discussions with their suppliers and/or subcontractors. It should focus on roles such as buyers, QS', commercial directors and estimators.
- Delivery of the session would be more beneficial as in-person. Sophie confirmed this could be delivered virtually and in-person.
- It is key for the session to be practical and to have relevant practical following up resources available.
- Commercial teams will focus on cost reduction, so we should push the sustainability benefits through resource efficiency, reducing energy use, and use of batteries with generators etc. It needs to align with business benefits and strategies.
- The group raised that it might be worth having a written framework that can be referred to, to provide a consistent message between homebuilder clients.
- There is a need to be mindful of manufacturers within this process and not just rely on the commercial teams to come up with ideas. Suggest a two-pronged attack, as manufacturers are the ones delivering the product that subcontractors are trying to get hold of. A secondary workshop could be delivered to bring manufacturers into the conversation.

ACTIONS:

School to:

- Work with Rob (Lovell) to develop the content
- Feedback on outcomes and attendee feedback post the session
- Add to the School workshop catalogue for all Partner to utilise

2b. Engaging commercial teams further

The group were asked if there was additional activity that could be done to engage commercial teams.

- Agreed it could be a challenge to demonstrate what sustainability initiatives have been delivered by commercial teams as they are early in the journey
- The industry needs to look at consistent messaging on their direction rather than focusing on small details e.g. a standard view of outcomes across sector or a minimum set of questions agreed by all clients

ACTIONS:

School to:

- Consider a mechanism to create consistency of ask for the supply chain between homebuilders and continue conversations at the next group meeting

2c. Update Groundworkers roundtable

Homes Leadership Group Meeting

Wednesday 4th February 2026

- The group are delivering an interactive roundtable for groundworks and clients, designed to be an open discussion to share feedback, blockers and challenges and quick wins that are cost effective and achievable.
- It is scheduled for 19 March at Lovell's offices with support from Barratt Redrow, Keepmoat, Crest Nicholson and Lovell. 11 groundworks companies are already registered.

Sophie then posed a series of questions to the group:

<p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are these the right focus areas for the challenges you're seeing in the sector? • Is there anything missing that would make this more valuable for you? • Are there any areas you feel are less important/could be de-prioritised? 	<p>Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How comfortable will this audience be in sharing their challenges/experiences in this setting?
<p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do these aims reflect what you'd like, as a group, to get out of this roundtable? • Do the Aims feel practical and relevant to your <u>day to day</u> experience? 	<p>Your involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would you like to join Barratt Redrow, Keepmoat and Lovell at this session? • Do you have any target groundworkers you would like to invite?

Key feedback was as follows:

- It would be beneficial to focus on more complicated issues, such as embodied carbon in groundworks operations, with a potential collaboration with the Future Homes Hub.
- Simple asks could include using battery storage generators, keeping track of fuel consumption and cement use. These are immediate wins that could be applied by most groundworkers.
- Different groundworkers would be at different stages in their sustainability journey so the session needs to be pitched at the right level for beginners.
- Group to agree an area of commonality to suggest a baseline to achieve.
- Confirmed that James Cadman (Action Sustainability) would be representing the School on the Future Homes Hub Embodied Carbon working group, and the School are also engaging with the Hub on the Carbon Calculator initiative.
- There is a gap between capability and understanding sustainability motivations from the groundworker perspective. Groundworkers see huge variations in the ask and demands from different clients. Having consistency on the expectations would ensure minimum standards are more easily met.
- The biggest carbon impact from a groundworker perspective by far is plant/fuel.

ACTIONS

Partners to:

- Get in touch with [Sophie](#) if you would like to be involved in the roundtable
- Share the circulated invite with their target groundworkers

Homes Leadership Group Meeting

Wednesday 4th February 2026

School to:

- Set up a meeting with the key homebuilders involved to prep content
- Develop proposed content and format for the roundtable
- Share information with all homebuilders
- Continue to raise registrations from groundworkers to attend the roundtable

3. Looking ahead: FY26/27 Business Plan

Sophie gave an overview of the Homes Business Plan, outlining the three main focuses for the 26/27 Business Plan:

- Drive engagement and impact in the Homes Sector
- Upskill subcontractors in carbon and waste reduction
- Engage and upskill commercial teams

The full plan is in the circulated slide deck.

ACTIONS:

Partners to:

- Get in touch with [Sophie](#) if you have further feedback

School to:

- Finalise the Business Plan and circulate to group and wider School teams for collaboration

4. AOB

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 5th May 10am - 12pm via Teams**

There are two open Board opportunities for Partners:

- Community of Practice Advisory Board. Please contact jez.sweetland@housingfestival.org.uk if you are interested in finding out more
- School Board. The School has three vacancies on its Board and we are seeking nominations from senior representatives from Partner organisations to support the future direction of the School. Deadline is 27 February and you can find the [information to apply here](#).