

Chancellor's Spring Statement – 13th March 2019

The key housing announcements were:

- £717 million from the £5.5 billion Housing Infrastructure Fund to unlock up to 37,000 homes at sites including Old Oak Common in London, the Oxford-Cambridge Arc and Cheshire.
- Through the Affordable Homes Guarantee Scheme, the government will guarantee up to £3 billion of borrowing by housing associations in England to support delivery of around 30,000 affordable homes
- Further progress on delivering growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc including £445 million from the Housing Infrastructure Fund to unlock over 22,000 homes, and a joint declaration with local partners.

In addition, the Chancellor flagged up the following policy issues:

- A future homes standard to be introduced mandating the end of fossil fuel usage in all new homes from 2025
- The Government to consult on future options for infra structure finance – to identify a possible replacement for PFI
- The Government to consult on a new national standard for new home - in part this reflects mounting concerns about the quality of new homes.
- New arrangements to increase biodiversity on housing sites