



National Brownfield Forum 2023/2024 Sector Review

Introductory Document

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Contents

Introduction3

What is the National Brownfield Forum?3

Why should you complete this survey?4

Limitations4

Part 1: Responding to this survey5

Part 2: The Questions6

Part 3: Post Review6

Introduction

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that

“Strategic policies should set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously-developed or ‘brownfield’ land”¹

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has made development on Brownfield land a focus of funding². Yet barriers to the development of Brownfield land clearly exist and will continue to arise.

Now is the opportunity to provide your voice by contributing to our national understanding of the obstacles and barriers that face Brownfield development in the UK.

To ensure a diverse and complete understanding then we seek the opinions and views of land owners, developers, consultants, contractors, investors, insurers, research organisations together with officers from local and national regulators. Without a diversity of opinion then the key arguments and different perspectives may be missed.

The results of the survey will be used as an evidence base to assist members of the National Brownfield Forum (NBF) focus their collective resource and will be used to focus future discussions with policy makers.

Your opinions are important.

What is the National Brownfield Forum?

The National Brownfield Forum (NBF) was established by DCLG (now DLUHC) and Defra in 2011. The aim of the NBF is to promote the sustainable use of land. It brings together private and public sector organisations to take an open and forward looking strategic overview of current and future land use issues including:

- taking into consideration the full range of social, economic and environmental factors in informing the development and implementation of Government policy,
- supporting the development, dissemination and adoption of best practice by regulators, practitioners and problem-owners
- identifying key challenges as they arise and seeking appropriate resolutions
- openly reporting on progress and outcomes.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/11-making-effective-use-of-land>

² [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/derelict-sites-to-be-transformed-into-new-homes-as-new-brownfield-fund-opens#:~:text=unused%20brownfield%20sites-,Derelict%20and%20underused%20brownfield%20sites%20across%20England%20will%20be%20transformed,today%20\(8%20July%202022\).](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/derelict-sites-to-be-transformed-into-new-homes-as-new-brownfield-fund-opens#:~:text=unused%20brownfield%20sites-,Derelict%20and%20underused%20brownfield%20sites%20across%20England%20will%20be%20transformed,today%20(8%20July%202022).)

The NBF considers UK-wide issues and references overseas experience where appropriate. Representation of organisations on the NBF is kept under review, and seeks to represent a broad spectrum of interests including regulators, local government and industry groups.

CL:AIRE is secretariat for the NBF, and all notes from its meetings are publicly available on CL:AIRE's website at www.claire.co.uk/brownfieldforum.

Why should you complete this survey?

To avoid an oversimplified understanding the opinions and perspectives from the widest of audiences is sought. Consequently, this survey is open to all from both the private and public sectors and we encourage all members of the NBF to actively promote this survey across their membership.

The NBF is interested in the opinions of land owners, agents and developers, the planning authorities and the national regulators i.e. not just from consultants and contractors. All perspective are to be considered of equal importance and weighting.

We thank all contributors in advance to make a difference and be heard.

Limitations

This survey is not being delivered directly on behalf of the UK Government. It is a voluntary initiative to inform, understand and formally record. Its findings will be publicly available.

The NBF cannot guarantee the delivery of time limited solutions to the problems identified. However, the NBF can via its membership seek to inform the development and implementation of Government policy by sharing, highlighting and discussing your views with Government.

Part 1: Responding to this survey

This survey starts on 4 August 2023 and closes on 29 September 2023. This is an 8-week survey and is being managed by CL:AIRE voluntarily on behalf of the NBF.

Your response must be provided using the online link, to ensure effective and efficient collation of the responses:

CL:AIRE cannot receive written responses. Any enquiries must be directed to CL:AIRE via its [Help Desk](#).

The survey is to be completed in Microsoft Forms at the following link :

<https://forms.office.com/e/7sg10Hf8ev>

Confidentiality Question

Confidentiality and data protection information

A summary of responses to this survey will be published at www.claire.co.uk/brownfieldforum. It will not include personal names, addresses or other contact details. CL:AIRE may also publish some or all of the content of responses to this survey.

If you choose 'Yes' to the confidentiality question on the survey, you are asked to state if you are willing to provide clarity to your responses if contacted by CL:AIRE.

If you choose 'No' in response to the above question, CL:AIRE will be able to release the content of your response as part of the survey feedback, without including your personal name and private contact details.

Part 2: The Questions

The questionnaire is divided into 4 themes with a number of short questions to answer. We anticipate completion of the survey to take 25 minutes.

Part 3: Post Review

Once CL:AIRE has collated all responses, these will be summarised and included in a factual report published on www.claire.co.uk/brownfieldforum. The results will also be discussed and shared by the NBF membership in seeking opportunities to direct positive long term change.