Corporate Performance Panel Major Housing Review

Lookback from 2015 to Today

James Grant



Clarifications and Exclusions

- High level oversight of programme and its management
- Not specific, in depth performance review of individual projects this is covered by the authorities formal "Post Project Review" process, presented to Member Major Projects Board
- Does not include Nora 1, 2 and 3 delivered under different relationships (162 Units)
- Salters Road included within completed projects as works largely completed however some works are outstanding, so performance is projected.
- Future CPP or R&D meeting may scrutinise more specific items following this presentation where needed



Key Aims

- Boost housebuilding in West Norfolk (4-5 years)
- Develop publicly-owned, previously undeveloped and challenging land
- Stimulate local economy
- Generate Council return
- Improve local facilities
- Leveraged Homes England's Accelerated Construction Programme (ACP) funding
- Target: 1,000 properties delivered (2015-2027)
- Build Market Leading High Quality Housing



Difficult places at difficult times

- Poor Ground Conditions
- Low Housing Values
- Areas other developers where not interested
- Post 2008 Financial Crash
- Throughout Covid
- Housing Market Contraction



Governance

- Managed by Corporate Projects Team
- Regeneration, Housing & Place
- Project Team > James Grant > Duncan Hall > Kate Blakemore
- Portfolio Holder Cllr Beales
- Quarterly Highlight Reports
- Assurance provided by Officer and Members Major Project Boards
- Governance Under Review
 - Programme Board
 - Delegated Authority
 - Agile Decision Making (in accordance with contractual requirements)



Who are Lovell Partnerships Ltd



- Part of Morgan Sindall Group plc: A major UK construction and regeneration group.
- Leading Partnership Housing Provider: Specialises in delivering housing through collaboration.
- Comprehensive Services: Builds, refurbishes, regenerates, and maintains homes across the UK.
- Focus Areas: Includes new-build, affordable, build-to-rent, open market, refurbishment, later living, and strategic land.
- Established Expertise: Over 50 years' experience in UK partnership housing.
- Nationwide Presence: Regional offices across England, Scotland, and Wales.
- Strong Partner Relationships: Works closely with local authorities, housing associations, etc,



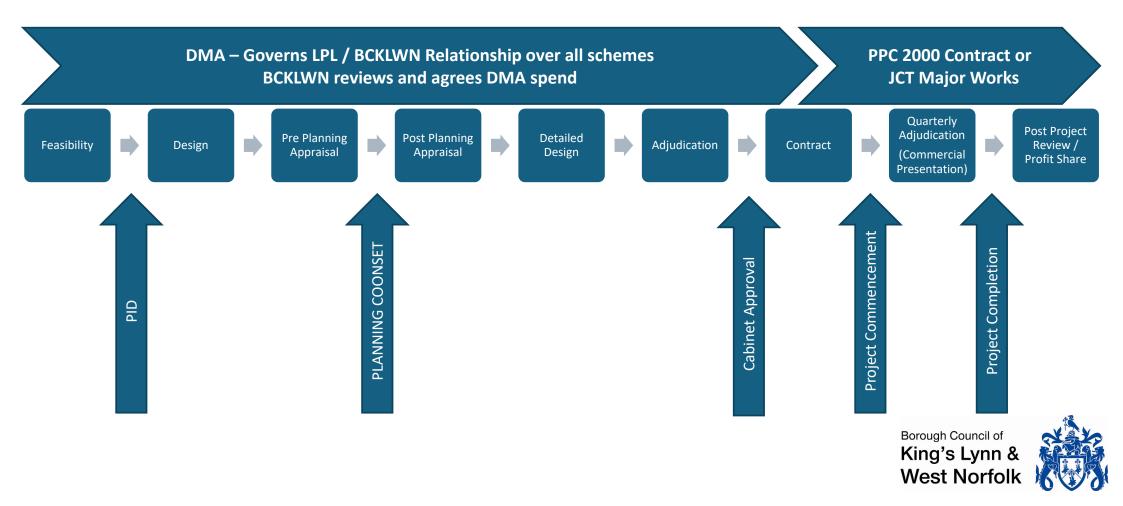
Lovel Partnership



- Appointed Via Competitive Negotiation Process
- Contractual Framework
- Two-tiered structure governs Council and Lovell partnership.
- 1. Development Management Agreement (DMA):
 - Overarching document defining partnership structure and governance.
 - Crucial for pre-construction phases and strategic framework.
- 2. PPC2000 Contract:
 - Used for each individual project.
 - Cost-plus basis with a profit-share mechanism.
 - Incentivises Lovell to manage costs efficiently and maximize sales.

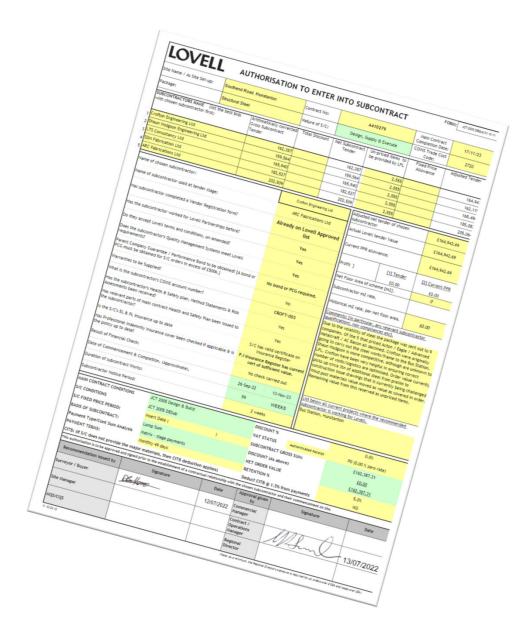


Project Process



Authorisation to Enter

- The Project Partnering Contract (PPC) is a target framework agreement, not a fixed-cost contract.
- The Borough Council authorises and records each subcontract let by Lovell via the Authorisation to Enter Process.
- Lovell is incentivised to beat their target costs through a profit-sharing system.
- For example, on NORA 4, the Borough Council reviewed 28 sub-contractor packages.
- Overspend authorisations are triaged based on the subcontract's size and total project impact.



GC Baxter & Associates

- GCBA's Ben Moore acts as the Borough Council's Quantity Surveyor.
- All costs are "open book," meaning GCBA can request any financial data.
- GCBA performs a monthly general review and periodic audits on specific cost items (e.g., fuel spend).
- GCBA provides the Borough Council with a payment recommendation, draft payment certificate, and a financial report.
- The team then issues payment certificates to Lovell for invoicing after their review.



Sales Release

- Target sales costs are provisional.
- The team authorises each property for sale using a sales release process.
- Lovell provides local market research for each property, including the proposed marketing price.
- This is reviewed against independent redbook valuations.









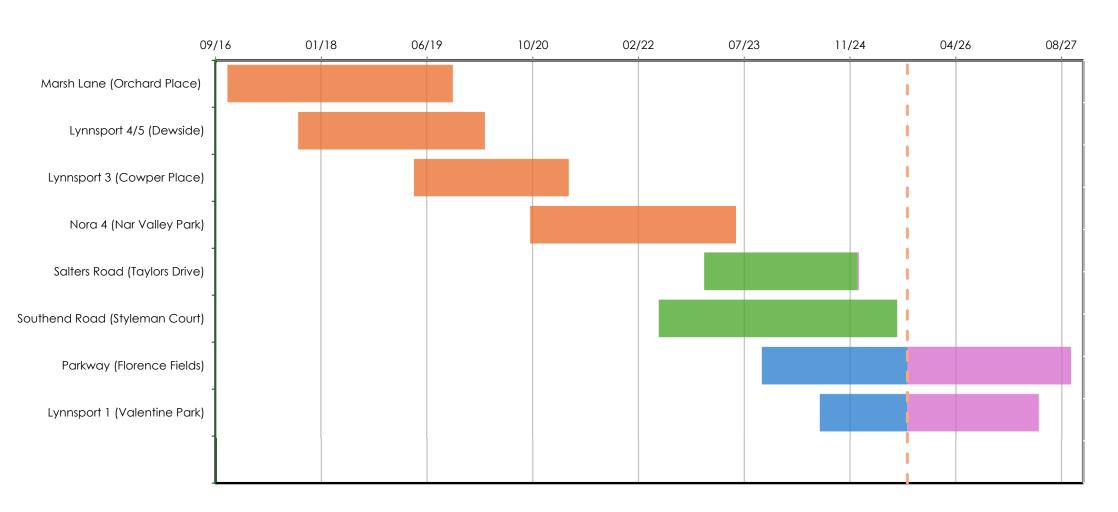
Looking Back

Projects Completed





Projects Completed











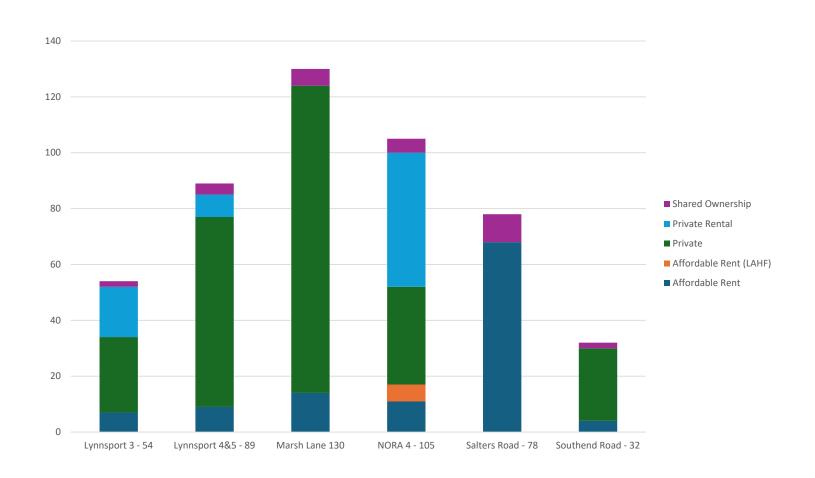






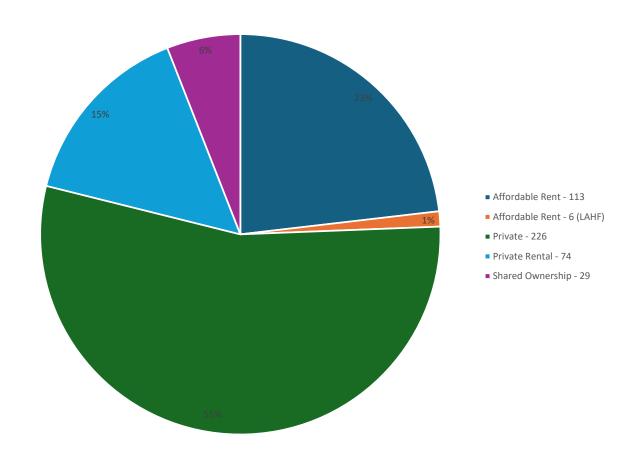


Projects Completed – Housing Output (488)





Projects Completed – Housing Output - 488





Projects Completed – Finances

Site	Projected Profit @ Commencement	Actual Profit @ Completion	+/-
Orchard Place (Marsh Lane)	£1,048,429	<u>£1,255,219</u>	<u>£206,790</u>
Dewside (Lynnsport 3)	£1,217,233	£1,560,667	£343,435
Cowper Place (Lynnsport 4&5)	<u>£371,365</u>	<u>£529,671</u>	<u>£158,306</u>
Nar Valley Park (NORA 4)	£460,000	£2,849,222	+£2,389,222
Salters Road (Taylors Drive)	£100,000	£644,153	+544,153
Total	£3,197,027	£6,838,932	£3,641,905



Looking Forward

Projects Ongoing

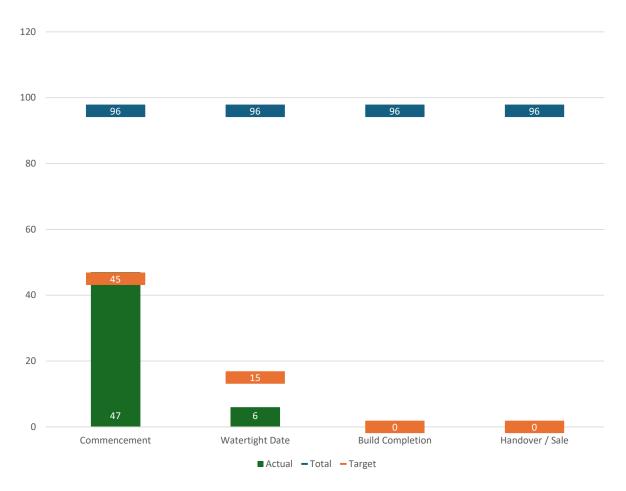


VALENTINE PARK KING'S LYNN





Projects Ongoing – Lynnsport 1 (Valentine Park)





Lynnsport 1 (Valentine Park) – Key Risks

Risk	Comments
Build Cost	 Building costs have increased significantly. We need to manage this diligently. Identify potential savings without negatively impacting the final values.
Housing Market	 Housing market is challenging. Pace of sales may be slower than projected. Reviewing options to mitigate this by changing tenure.
Local Residence	 The project is still impacting local residents, though this is minimising We need to keep reducing disruption for our neighbours. Key concerns for residents are dust and the impact of piling.
Staffing	 The project needs a strong team from both Lovell and BCKLNW. The loss of key Lovell staff is being monitored due to recent internal changes.





King's Lynn



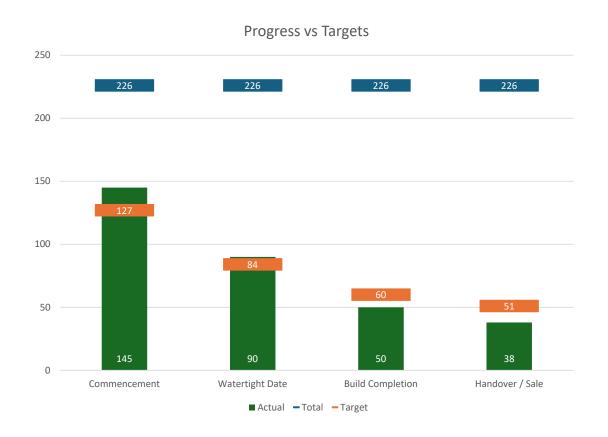


Parkway (Florence Fields) – Key Risks

Risk	Comments	
Build Cost	Build costs have increased significantly since the start of the project. We need to diligently manage this by identifying potential savings that won't negatively impact the final disposal values.	
Housing Market	The current housing market is very challenging, and the pace of sales is significantly slower than projected. We are reviewing options to mitigate this through changes to our tenures.	
Ground Conditions	Ground conditions in the final phase are proving more challenging than expected. This will require piling instead of the traditional footings we had planned for. We need to update the cost projections and programme to accommodate these necessary changes.	
Local Residence	The project continues to have an impact on local residents. While this impact is minimising as works progress, we need to maintain careful consideration to reduce disruption for our neighbours.	
Section 278 Agreement	Negotiations with NCC are ongoing regarding proposed local highway improvements. While the project budget includes an allowance for these works, the full scope is not yet agreed upon, which poses a risk.	
Staffing	This project requires a strong project team, both at Lovell and BCKLWN. The loss of key Lovell staff is being monitored as a result of recent internal changes at Lovell.	

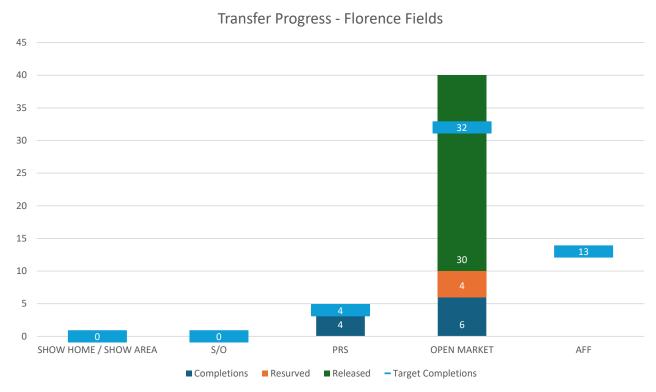


Projects Ongoing – Parkway (Florence Fields)





Projects Ongoing – Parkway (Florence Fields)





Related Works & Activities

to Major Housing Programme



Social Value

The National TOMs (Themes, Outcomes, and Measures) are a framework used in the UK to measure and report social value, especially in public sector contracts. They help organisations quantify the positive social, economic, and environmental impact of their work.

What are the TOMs?

- Themes: Broad areas of focus like Work (e.g., creating jobs), Economy (supporting local businesses), Community (engaging locally), Planet (environmental efforts), and Innovation.
- Outcomes: Specific goals under each theme, such as "creating employment for disadvantaged people."
- Measures: Quantifiable ways to track these outcomes, for instance, "number of local apprenticeships provided." They also include "proxy values" to put a financial figure on these social benefits.

Why are they important?

- Standardisation: They offer a consistent way to measure social impact, making it easier to compare projects.
- Accountability: They help organisations show how they're contributing beyond just profit.
- Procurement: Often a requirement for winning public sector contracts in the UK, driven by the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

While widely used by councils, central government often uses the Social Value Model (similar principles). The National TOMs are updated annually by the Social Value Portal and the National Social Value Taskforce.



































































































Social Value

Total amount (£) spent through the contract with local MSMEs - NT19	£29,340,000	
Savings in CO2e emissions on contract achieved through de-carbonisation - NT31		
Hard-to-recycle waste diverted from landfill/incineration - NT72		
Total amount (£) spent in local supply chain through the contract - NT18	£59,731	
Reduce waste through reuse of products and materials - NT88	187.51	
Social Value delivered	£161,946	
Local Economic Value delivered	£20,857,561	
Jobs: Promote Local Skills and Employment	£868,500	
Social: Healthier, Safer and more Resilient Communities	£3,189	
Growth: Supporting Growth of Responsible Regional Business	£20,093,708	
Environment: Decarbonising and Safeguarding our World	£53,909	
Local Employment - Social Value delivered (£)		
Local Employment - Units delivered (people)	27	
Apprenticeships - Social Value delivered (£)	£100,711	
Apprenticeships - Units delivered (weeks)	400	

Social Value

Training Opportunities - Social Value delivered (£)	£1,907
Training Opportunities - Units delivered (weeks)	6
MSME Spend - Social Value delivered (£)	£20,051,679
MSME Spend - Units delivered (£)	£29,343,198
Local Spend - Social Value delivered (£)	£40,817
Local Spend - Units delivered (£)	£59,731
Volunteer Hours - Social Value delivered (£)	£389
Volunteer Hours - Units delivered (hours)	24
Community Support - Social Value delivered (£)	£3,000
Community Support - Units delivered (£)	£3,000
Staff Support - Social Value delivered (£)	£1,212
Carbon Reduction - Social Value delivered (£)	£29,710
Carbon Reduction - Units delivered (tCO2e)	121
Waste Reduction - Social Value delivered (£)	£24,199
Waste Reduction - Units delivered (tonnes)	250

Creating Communities



A Place Directorate Initiative

Delivered in Partnership between Corporate Projects, Lily & Alive West Norfolk

"Be a catalyst for community"



Creating Communities

- Provide Community Information
 - Public Services
 - Citizens Advice
 - Foodbank
 - Community Transport
 - Local Amenities
 - Libraries
 - Allotments
 - Schools
 - Community Groups
 - Youth Groups
 - Etc.
- Borough Council Services
 - Alive Leisure
 - Town Hall
 - Buyer Discounts

- Creating Communities Event
 - Corporate Projects Team
 - LILY
 - Alive Leisure
 - NHS
 - Police
 - Community Action Norfolk
 - Freebridge Community Housing
 - Religious Groups
 - Etc.
- Community Events (in partnership with Alive)
 - Street Games
 - Walking Groups
 - Community Football



Lessons Learnt





Major Housing Lessons Identified

Project	Name	Issues	Lesson Learnt
NORA	Management Companies	 The land transfer for the management company is at risk because the initial setup was not consistent and incorrect. Key elements were missing from the start, including a suitable managing agent, a board of directors, and proper controls. This incorrect setup delays the transfer, prolonging liability and risk. 	 Prioritise a correct initial setup. Ensure all necessary steps are completed from the very beginning. Use a pre-commencement checklist to confirm that a suitable managing agent is appointed and a functional board of directors is in place. Acting proactively will allow for the earliest possible land transfer, which minimises ongoing risk and liability.
All Sites	Utility Adoptions	 Without a standardised process for tracking utility adoptions, it's difficult to ensure consistency across all sites. A lack of regular meetings means there is no formal way to monitor progress effectively. Delays in transferring ownership expose the project to ongoing risk. 	 Implement a standardised process to ensure a consistent approach to tracking all utility adoptions. Hold regular meetings with all relevant parties to proactively monitor progress and address any issues promptly. Focus on transferring ownership as early as possible to minimise risk and liability.
All Sites	Risk Allocation	 A council might try to save money on construction by holding risk themselves instead of paying a contractor's premium. This is a significant risk because if the council doesn't have a skilled team, they could face major financial liabilities. 	 Only hold risk if your team has the skills to manage it. Before committing to this strategy, a council must honestly assess its internal expertise. Be selective about projects. This approach should be used only on projects where the potential rewards outweigh the financial liability and the council is confident in its ability to handle any issues.



Major Housing Lessons Identified

Project	Name	Issue	Lesson Learnt
All Sites	Ground Conditions	 Poor ground conditions, specifically peat, in King's Lynn led to underestimated project costs. Project budget must account for the high costs of peat removal and disposal or the necessary piling. 	 Conduct enhanced ground investigations on all future projects in this region. Require a preliminary design and cost model that includes the full, realistic costs for piling and ground material disposal from the very beginning.
Parkway	Sub-Contractor Oversight	 Poor sub-contractor administration can have a major negative impact on the entire partnership. There must be rigorous management framework in place to handle sub-contractors effectively. The current process must assess the risk of a sub-contractor to the whole programme, only to individual sites. 	 Implement a more rigorous sub-contractor management framework. This should be a top priority. Conduct independent financial checks and request regular performance updates from Lovell. This provides an additional layer of oversight. Assess sub-contractor risk to the entire programme, not just to individual sites. This holistic approach prevents a single issue from jeopardising the wider project.
NORA 4	Material Procurement	 Material procurement is often reactive, leaving projects vulnerable to supply chain risks. Without a clear strategy, there is no plan to handle issues like material shortages, delays, or rising costs. 	 Establish a proactive material procurement strategy. This involves ordering materials early and securing supply agreements with key vendors. Create contingency plans to manage any potential disruptions.
All Sites	Remove Silo Working	 A lack of cross-functional project teams and regular inter-departmental meetings is a potential problem. This could lead to poor communication and collaboration, creating departmental silos. Such a setup is prone to issues stemming from a lack of shared understanding and coordinated effort. 	 Establish cross-functional project teams to ensure all relevant departments are involved from the start. Implement regular inter-departmental meetings to facilitate communication and monitor progress. This proactive strategy can prevent silos, promote a shared vision, and minimise risks associated with poor communication.



Major Housing Lessons Identified

Project	Name	Issue	Lesson Learnt
NORA 4	Creating Communities	 By proactively adopting the "Creating Communities" approach, you can ensure new housing developments feel integrated with their surroundings. This allows you to build strong, cohesive communities from the very beginning. 	 Consider the "Creating Communities" approach early in the process. Engage future residents from the outset to allow them to provide input and help shape their new community. This investment in long-term success creates a vibrant place where people want to live and helps integrate new communities with existing ones.
Parkway / Salters	Newsletters	 By standardising the approach to project newsletters, you can ensure consistent, high-quality communication across all sites This proactive strategy fosters transparency and keeps stakeholders informed and engaged. 	 Standardise the approach to project newsletters across all sites to ensure a uniform and professional appearance. Develop a formal communications plan that includes a regular publishing schedule to ensure consistency. Focus on relevant content and an effective distribution method to reach the target audience and maximise engagement.

Questions

(Pre-exempt session)

