Extract from CIPFA's Local Authority Owned Companies – A good practice Guide (2022 Edition)

Housing Company Discussion of Implications

The CIPFA Local Housing Companies document sets out the key issues to consider in relation to company structure and the reasons for setting up a company. It sets out the key risks and issues to be considered such as:

- Legal powers
- Governance and appointment of directors
- Financing
- Subsidy Control (aka State aid)
- Land acquisition
- Taxation
- Right to buy
- Accounting

In terms of the local context the key questions are:

- Reasons for the need for this type of vehicle
- Land available in council ownership
- Funds available
- Viability and business modelling
- Skills, knowledge, and capacity

In terms of funds see the latest resources statement approved as part of the approved budget for 2022-23, and an extract of S106 funds held for affordable housing reported to CG&AC in November 2021. Any use of s106 will need to be assessed against the original agreement terms and conditions. Section 106 commuted sums for affordable housing can be provided as a grant from the Council to any organisation providing the affordable homes required under the terms of the agreement.