



NEWS RELEASE  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2005

## NEW HOUSING FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR THE TEES VALLEY

Tees Valley Living today welcomed the news that the Tees Valley is to receive at least £18m for investment in a number of key housing market renewal projects.

Regeneration Minister Jeff Rooker announced that £23m will be made available to the parts of the North East, outside the Newcastle-Gateshead Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder area, with the Tees Valley receiving at least 80% of this funding. This amounts to £18.4m.

Tees Valley Living, the partnership agency leading the way in delivering housing market renewal projects across the five boroughs of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees, today said it was pleased with the announcement.

Jim Johnson, Director of Tees Valley Living, said: "The announcement that the Tees Valley is to receive the lion's share of the funds for housing market renewal outside the Pathfinder is welcomed.

"The fact the Government has acknowledged the scale of the problem facing the Tees Valley is testament to the concentrated efforts of many local agencies in demonstrating the sub-regional case for support.

"We will now be discussing precisely where this money will be spent, with announcements being made in the next couple of months."

Councillor Bob Brady, Deputy Mayor of Middlesbrough and a member of the Regional Housing Board, added: "The five local authorities of the Tees Valley have worked extremely hard to get to the stage to receive this funding, which will allow us to start the housing market renewal process.

"But, over the next 15 years, we need to link in to a constant stream of funding to ensure that the full regeneration and renewal programme is successfully completed."

Tees Valley Living is made up of the five local authorities, registered social landlords, the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit, Tees Valley Regeneration, Darlington Building Society and the House Builders Federation. It is overseen by Government Office North East, One NorthEast (through the Tees Valley Partnership), English Partnerships and the Housing Corporation.