

	<h1>Innovation and good practice</h1>
<p>October 1996</p>	<p>General determination 1996</p>

**PREAMBLE**

1. The Housing Corporation, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 87 of the Housing Associations Act 1985, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Environment, and after consultation with such bodies as appear to the Corporation to be representative of Registered Social Landlords, hereby makes the following General Determination of the principles in accordance with which the Corporation shall specify:
  - a) eligibility for and conditions which may be attached to the payment of Section 87 Grants.
  - b) applications for Section 87 Grants.
  - c) calculation of Section 87 Grants.
  - d) payment of Section 87 Grants.
  - e) cancellation, recovery, reduction, or suspension of Section 87 Grants.

**CITATION, COMMENCEMENT AND REVOCATION**

2. This Determination may be cited as the Innovation and Good Practice Grant General Determination 1996.
3. This Determination has effect from 1st October 1996.
4. This General Determination revokes the remaining parts of the ‘Promotional and Advisory Grant for Registered Housing Associations: General Determination 1989’, the ‘Promotional and Advisory Grant: General Determination 1990’, and ‘Promotional and Advisory Grant: (Amendment) Determination 1991’.
5. This General Determination is made without prejudice to the Corporation’s power to make determinations relating solely to a particular case under the provisions of the Housing Act 1988 and the Housing Act 1996.

**INTERPRETATION**

6. In this Determination, unless the context otherwise requires:
 

“*Section 87*” means Section 87 of the Housing Associations Act 1985, as amended by Section 183 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Schedule 3 paragraph 7 to the Housing Act 1996.

*“the Corporation”* means the Housing Corporation or its duly appointed agents.

*“Registered Social Landlord”* means a social landlord, as defined in Part 1 of the Housing Act 1996.

*“Co-operative Housing Association”* means a co-operative housing association as defined in Section 1(2) of the Housing Associations Act 1985.

*“Section 87 Grant”* means grant payable under the provisions of this Determination.

#### ELIGIBILITY FOR SECTION 87 GRANT

7. The Housing Corporation may pay Section 87 Grant to any organisation or person in accordance with such procedures, methods or conditions as it may specify from time to time, in order to assist activities which facilitate the proper performance of the functions of registered social landlords or co-operative housing associations, and which would not otherwise take place or would not otherwise be effective.

#### APPLICATION FOR SECTION 87 GRANT

8. Application for Section 87 Grant may be made prior to expenditure being incurred and in any event shall be made by the last day of the accounting period in which that expenditure is to be incurred.
9. Applications for Section 87 Grant shall be made to the Housing Corporation in such a form and containing such information as the Corporation may require in order to establish the need for the activity to be grant assisted.

#### CALCULATION OF SECTION 87 GRANT

10. The amount of Section 87 Grants made by the Corporation may vary according to the extent to which, in the Corporation’s view, grant support is needed to make the project effective and the extent to which the project would make effective use of the resources available to the Corporation.

#### PAYMENT OF, AND CONDITIONS ATTACHING TO, SECTION 87 GRANT

11. The Corporation shall notify the applicant of the award of a Section 87 Grant and the purposes for which the grant is to be paid, the conditions which shall apply, and the timetable for the submission of claims for the payment of the Section 87 Grant.
12. Payment of grant may be in advance or in arrears, and may be condi-

tional on matters to be notified to the applicant by the Corporation, and these may include, but shall not be limited to:

a requirement to submit audited accounts and a report on the project within six months of the end of the recipient's accounting year in which the grant is provided;

a requirement to work to agreed objectives and to an agreed programme;

a requirement to co-operate with the Corporation in monitoring and review of the project.

**CANCELLATION, RECOVERY, REDUCTION, OR SUSPENSION OF SECTION 87 GRANT**

13. On the occurrence of a Relevant Event as hereinafter defined, the Corporation may if it considers it reasonable, recover the grant paid in whole or in part (with or without interest) or reduce, suspend, or cancel grant or any instalment thereof, due on any activity to which the Relevant Event applies.

Relevant Events shall comprise:

- a) Failure by the recipient to spend Section 87 Grant within such a period as the Corporation considers of reasonable length, bearing in mind the nature of the activity to which the Section 87 Grant relates.
- b) Failure by the recipient to spend Section 87 Grant on the purpose for which the grant was initially approved by the Corporation unless the recipient has received prior written agreement of a new purpose from the Corporation.
- c) Failure by the recipient to comply with a condition attached by the Corporation to the payment of Section 87 Grant.
- d) The recipient obtaining alternative funding towards the project from a source other than the Housing Corporation after the offer of Section 87 Grant.
- e) The discovery that the recipient has supplied incorrect information in connection with an application for Section 87 Grant.
- f) The discovery that the Housing Corporation has made an error in the calculation of the Section 87 Grant.

14. Where after a payment of Section 87 Grant has been made, a Relevant Event occurs, the recipient shall notify the Corporation promptly and,

if so required by written notice of the Housing Corporation, shall furnish it with such particulars of, and information relating to, the Relevant Event as specified in the notice.

15. Where a Section 87 Grant is to be recovered by the Housing Corporation the Corporation may charge interest at such rates and for such periods as it considers to be appropriate in the particular case, taking into account the requirement for prompt notification and repayment.

BY ORDER OF THE CORPORATION this                      day of                      1996

**R A J Mayer**  
**Chief Executive**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Determination).*

This Determination is the basis upon which the Housing Corporation will make payments of Innovation and Good Practice Grants, which were previously called Promotional and Advisory Grants. The Determination replaces the previous Determinations to reflect the changes in the legislation and the new name.

The detailed programmes and priorities which the Housing Corporation will use to assess support required for projects are published each year, and are available from the Corporation's Regional Offices and Headquarters.