

Factsheet Two

COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING - WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?



Community-led Housing (CLH) is concerned with providing 'Affordable Homes for Local Communities'. The process is led by, designed and managed by local people, to meet the affordable housing needs of your community. Homes are kept in perpetuity because they are provided predominately for rent or shared ownership. The schemes are Not for Profit and as community assets can generate income for your town or village. They are also safeguarded from the Right to Buy.

The scheme ensures that residents are at the heart of the process when key decisions are made in the development of affordable homes. Developments are small in scale and number of homes provided. However, Community-led Housing is not just about building new homes, it can also be used to bring empty properties back into use.

Community-led Housing is set up and run by local people in their own communities, often with external support from housing associations, local authorities or regional and national support organisations. They provide genuinely affordable homes for rent, shared ownership or sale, on sites that are often difficult for mainstream housing providers to develop and they meet long-term local housing needs, by the community retaining a legal and/or financial interest in the homes provided and ensuring they are always available to local people who need them.

Humber & Wolds Rural Action (HWRA) has been appointed by East Riding of Yorkshire Council to help promote and take forward proposals for Community-led Housing, with support from the Community Housing Fund which provides funding for small affordable housing developments in rural communities. The homes provided are for people in the local community or those with a strong local connection.

The Community Housing Fund, managed by East Riding of Yorkshire Council, provides financial support for communities wishing to develop Community-led Housing.

The funding uses a three stage process and HWRA is the partner to help communities through Stage One. This would involve setting up a community group or using the Parish Council, to consult residents on their housing needs. The funding can be used to organise visits to completed CLH developments to learn how the schemes have worked, room hire fees, consultation and event costs.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council is keen to see communities take up the initial funding in Stage One. This 'toe in the water' exercise would enable rural communities to quantify the affordable housing needs of their residents. A grant of up to £4,000 is available for this process per community.

Currently Central Government is providing money to help these types of homes to be built, so now is a good time to consider this in your community,

For more information on the scheme, contact:

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