



**Community First**  
**Yorkshire**

---

# Community Led Housing and Help Available

Leah Swain, Community First Yorkshire

---



---

# What is Community Led Housing?

---

The legal form and activities of each community led housing scheme depend on the local context, but schemes that are genuinely community led all share common principles:

- The community is integrally involved throughout the process in key decisions like what is provided, where, and for who. They don't necessarily have to initiate the conversation, or build homes themselves.
- There is a presumption that the community group will take a long term formal role in the ownership, stewardship or management of the homes.
- The benefits of the scheme to the local area and/or specified community group are clearly defined and legally protected in perpetuity.

---

# Who Can Take Forward a CLH Scheme?

---

Broadly speaking there are 3 main ways community led housing gets delivered:

- **Group led:** Grassroots groups responding to housing need or demand, or people seeking to deliver their own homes.
- **Extension of community based activity:** Existing community based organisations with local roots decide to provide housing in addition to their current activities.
- **Developer-Community partnership:** A local authority/ landowner/ housing association or small builder wants to provide housing that benefits the local area in perpetuity. They access community-led housing expertise to recruit 'founder members' from within the community and support them to take over ownership/stewardship and/or management of the homes.

---

# Why would you take this on?

---

Taking forward a CLH Scheme will take considerable time, energy and resources. So why would you do it?

- Not everyone will be able to afford to buy their own home – and not everyone will want to
- Different generations are looking for different types of homes
- Sustainable income source for your community
- Helping to keep your school, shop, PO or pub open
- You take control and ownership of new development in your community

---

# What Help is Available?

---

Hambleton Rural Housing Enabler, Amanda Madden

[Amanda.Madden@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.Madden@hambleton.gov.uk)

Ryedale Rural Housing Enabler, Colin Huby

[Colin.huby@ryedale.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.huby@ryedale.gov.uk)

REACH Community led Housing Hub

<http://www.reachcommunityhousing.co.uk/>

Community First Yorkshire. Contact Leah Swain or Hayley Johnson at

[leah.swain@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk](mailto:leah.swain@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk);

[Hayley.Johnson@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk](mailto:Hayley.Johnson@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk)

Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF)

<https://www.bshf.org/our-programmes/community-led-housing/>

---

# What Help is Available?

---

National Community Land Trust Network

<http://www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk/>

UK Cohousing Network <https://cohousing.org.uk/>

The Confederation of Co-operative Housing <http://www.cch.coop/>

Locality <http://locality.org.uk/projects/communityled-housing/>

Charity Bank, Key Fund, The Ecology Building Society and others



**Community First  
Yorkshire**



**@CommFirstYorks**



**Community First Yorkshire**

---

Unit A | Tower House | Askham Fields Lane | Askham Bryan | York | YO23 3FS

01904 704177 | [info@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk](mailto:info@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk) | [www.communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk](http://www.communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk)

Registered Charity No: 515538 | Company No: 1839458 | VAT No: 500834776