



Rural Housing Partnership

Objective

<p>Oxfordshire Rural Housing Partnership</p>	<p>To provide local authorities in Oxfordshire with a vehicle to focus strategically on delivery; to increase capacity and enable affordable housing in rural Oxfordshire</p>
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Detail

The [Oxfordshire Rural Housing Partnership](#) (ORHP) is commissioned by: Cherwell District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, South Oxfordshire District Council & West Oxfordshire District Council and answerable to the Oxfordshire Spatial Planning & Infrastructure Partnership (SPIP), which in turn is the lead on the Oxfordshire Single Conversation.

The Chair / strategic advocate of the Partnership is Andrew Smith MD of [Oxford Citizens HA](#). The other Registered Providers are; [Cottsway HA](#), [Sovereign Group](#) and [Soha Housing](#). [Oxfordshire Rural Community Council](#) is a full partner, and is where the Rural Housing Enablers sit.

By working in consortia it is possible to standardise the approach to acquisition. By engaging with a single partnership, local authorities are better able to focus strategic energies and community leadership than trying to relate to a wide range of non-specialist providers who have little investment in rural Oxfordshire.

The economies of scale produced through the dedicated supply chain enable the Registered Providers to provide better value for money on these partnership schemes.

The very existence of the partnership has ensured that rural affordable housing remains high on the political agenda.

The partnership draws in officers from across the council's service areas, including; finance & audit, planning – policy, development & implementations as well as housing. All this ensures that knowledge gaps if they exist are comprehensively addressed.

The close working relationships engendered between the partnership and planning officers has resulted in a more effective site selection and scheme delivery process in Oxfordshire.

[Service Level Agreement](#)

[ORHP information leaflet](#)

[ORHP presentation](#)

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