



Good Practice

Objective

Partnership working with Community Lincs	To make the best use of resources and increase capacity
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Detail

The Council has a policy of a rolling programme of surveys in rural communities - ensuring there is evidenced need for affordable housing. By working in partnership the council and [Community Lincs](#) make best use of resources by sharing the costs of housing needs surveys in terms of officer time and materials. Community Lincs is a charity that specialises in rural development across Lincolnshire.

The council print the questionnaires, assist the parish council by posting the questionnaires to all residents if required, provide pre-paid return envelopes, deliver and collect questionnaires to parish council's. Community Lincs open the discussions with parish councils, establish whether they wish the local authority to be involved and at what stage through the process, and analyse the questionnaires and publish the findings. This process is flexible and offers the parish council's the level of involvement/assistance they want from the local authority and Community Lincs. The process also ensures that the findings are independent.

Good working relationships between the Council, Community Lincs and the Parish Council enable the process to continue should an affordable housing need be established by involving the community to look for suitable sites, approach land owners and in some instances identify a need for specialist accommodation.

Outcomes

Working in partnership with Community Lincs Rural Housing Enabler project assists with the development of rural affordable housing and has enabled a rolling programme of surveys to be established.

The information gained from the housing needs surveys and local knowledge from local partners supports the strategic aim of the local authority to deliver affordable housing in the area.

Capacity has been increased and costs managed by sharing resources.

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