



HOUSING NEEDS SURVEYS

We can design and carry out Housing Needs Surveys for your community-led housing group.

Housing Needs Surveys are a key feature of community-led housing schemes intended to be built on Rural Exception Sites. They provide a robust evidence base that provides an assessment of the scale of need and an understanding of its characteristics in terms of, housing tenures, house sizes and types, affordability, household characteristics, and bespoke adaptive requirements. A survey can canvas opinion from the community on the benefits of providing affordable housing for local people via community-led approaches.

Our standard approach is to send a questionnaire to every residential address in the neighbourhood or parish. We typically achieve response rates of about 25-30%. Our findings are integrated with the Housing Register data to provide a more comprehensive understanding of local need. We also review a wider range of published data to enable our findings to sit within the wider context of the local housing market. Housing Needs Surveys carried out by Eastern Community Homes are independent of developers and the survey represents an independent analysis of housing need.

We undertake our surveys in line with national good practice. This document is endorsed by the Rural Housing Alliance.

Our partners carried out a Housing Needs Survey in 2018 of Lavenham parish in Suffolk on behalf of Lavenham CLT. There was a high response rate to the survey by the community in the parish. The housing group then used the results of the survey to undertake a community-led housing project. Read the Executive Summary of the Housing Needs Survey [here](#).

The surveys are undertaken by our county based Rural Housing Enablers who all have extensive knowledge and experience of working with communities in order to undertake the surveys, write-up detailed reports and present the findings to community groups, local authorities and housing associations.

Surveys are costed depending on size of community and the requirements of the community-led housing group. We can also advise on funding that may be available for your group to undertake a Housing Needs Survey. Please contact Eastern Community Homes (enquiries@easterncommunityhomes.com) to discuss Housing Needs Survey requirements further.

Eastern Community Homes is facilitated by Cambridgeshire ACRE

Cambridgeshire ACRE is registered in England as a charity (no.1074032) and a company limited by guarantee (no.3690881)

Registered office: e-space North, 181 Wisbech Road, Littleport, Ely, CB6 1RA

