

Right to Build Task Force offers free support to five community-led housing groups

Following a call for applications in the Summer, five community-led housing groups have been awarded free packages of targeted support by the Right to Build Task Force, the national body working to deliver more opportunities for Custom Build homes in the UK.

The free support is a reflection of the Right to Build Task Force's commitment to work with a range of community-led housing initiatives.

The awards for the five winning groups comes in the form of targeted advice, helping each group progress to the next stage of their project as they work towards their goal of delivering a tailored community development.

Community-led housing is a massive growth area in the UK, as people are increasingly working to create homes that the open market is frequently not delivering. In fact, UK Cohousing¹ reports that in the UK there are now 19 built cohousing developments, with over 60 groups working to deliver projects, while the National Community Land Trust Network² reports that there are 290 Community Land Trusts in England and Wales alone.

The winning groups are:

Clachan Cohousing Development Group – a multi-generational eco-housing group in Glasgow.

Kent Cohousing – a group working towards delivering its own cohousing vision.

Still Green Cohousing – a cohousing group for over-50s, working on projects in Milton Keynes and Bicester.

Plymouth Energy Community (PEC) – working to deliver new affordable housing projects.

Alderley Edge Neighbourhood Planning Group – working to include Self-build and Custom Build in its Neighbourhood Plan.

The majority of groups will be using their time to support design and construction workshops, setting out the financial parameters around indicative site layouts and appraisals, and feasibility studies. Support will also be given around creating business plans and project briefs.

The Right to Build Task Force wants to encourage more cohousing, Community Land Trust and neighbourhood groups to consider it as vital source of help. Support is based on a consultancy approach, offered at a discount to community-led housing groups.