



Community-led housing: sources of information

The community-led housing sector is a diverse one, with a wide range of organisations offering support and advice to communities interested in taking a project forward. There is a wealth of online information for a range of audiences, whether they are new to the concept of community-led housing or already heavily involved in a project.

This document seeks to collate some of the breadth of information available to make it accessible to a greater number of people. It is by no means exhaustive, and BSHF would be interested to hear of other resources that would merit inclusion.

Reports on the sector

- [More than Markets: Mutual and Co-operative Housing in the UK](#)
- [A Right to Build: The Next Mass Housebuilding Industry](#)
- [Bringing Democracy Home](#)

Summaries of different approaches

Sector as a whole: [Collective custom build video](#)

Cohousing: [Introductory cohousing leaflet](#)

Community Land Trusts

- [The Value of Land: How Community Land Trusts Maintain Housing Affordability](#)
- [About CLTs](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [CLTs in a nutshell](#)
- [Cumbria Rural Housing Trust: What is a CLT](#)

Cooperatives

- [Meeting housing needs the cooperative way](#)
- [Bringing Democracy Home](#) (long report rather than summary, but does provide an overview)
- [Wales Cooperative Centre](#) (there is a helpful introduction to cooperative housing in this longer report)
- [Catalyst Collective: Housing Co-ops](#)

Self-help housing: [How does self-help housing work?](#)

Community self-build: The [self-build portal](#) contains introductory information, but not in a single place on the site.

Case studies

- [Cohousing case studies](#); [Cohousing groups directory](#)
- CLT case studies: [rural](#), [urban](#), [international](#); [“See it and believe it” peer to peer learning exchange programme](#); [videos](#); [Salford research](#); [Salford research](#)
- [Self-help housing](#)
- [Self-build portal](#)
- [Community Self Build Agency](#)
- [HACT case studies](#)
- [HAPPI Study Visit 6: Sweden and Denmark](#)

Toolkits/guidance

Information on models and approaches

Self-help housing: [How to do it](#)

Cohousing

- [FAQs](#)
- [Setting up](#)
- [The Cohousing Toolkit](#)
- [Quick Tips for Cohousers](#)

CLTs

- [Resources for starting a CLT](#)
- [CLT Handbook](#)
- [Salford Urban CLT toolkit](#)
- [Cumbria CLT Handbook](#)
- [Flow chart for CLT development](#)

Cooperatives

- [New cooperative and community-led homes](#) (but contains information on other approaches too)
- [Cooperative housing policy advice and guidance](#)
- [“So you want to live in a housing co-op...”](#)
- [Different types of housing coops](#)
- [Cooperative principles](#)
- [Governance audit tool](#)
- [How to set up a housing co-operative](#)
- [Types of housing co-ops](#)

Self-build

- [Community Self Build Agency FAQs](#)
- [Self-Build Portal](#)
- [Step by step guide to self-build](#)
- [Self-build central](#) (focus on “eco” self-build)
- [The Self-Build Guide](#)
- [Self-build videos](#)

Tenant management

- [Information for council tenants](#)
- [Information for housing association tenants](#)
- [NFTMO resources](#)

Topic-specific tools

[So you want to build a house](#) (covers a range of topics: land, construction, money and people)

Finance

- [Simply Finance](#): A comprehensive guide to the different options for financing a community enterprise (Co-operatives UK)
- [Financing cooperative and mutual housing](#) (report rather than guide)
- [Mutual Home Ownership Society](#)
- [Selfbuild Central: Finance](#)
- [Sources of finance](#)
- [Budget advice](#)
- [How do I apply for the Custom Build Investment fund?](#)
- [Community Rights and Community Led Project Support Funding](#)
- [An introduction to a range of alternative approaches to finance and fundraising](#)
- [Community Share Issues and Community Land Trusts](#)
- [Finances \(DTA Scotland\)](#)

Building community

- [Creating a Cohousing Community](#)
- [Consensus decision-making](#)
- [Urban Forum Guide to Community Resilience](#)

Partnership working

- [New cooperative and community-led homes](#) (contains info on working with local authorities and housing associations)
- [Working with a housing association \(CLTs\)](#)
- [Community-Led Housing and the Role of Housing Associations \(HACT\)](#)

Legal structures

- [Cooperatives UK select-a-structure tool](#)

- [CLT Legal incorporation options](#)
- [CLT legal toolkit](#)
- [Governance and legal structures \(CLT\)](#)
- [Mutual Home Ownership](#)

Planning

- [Urban Forum Guide to Community Resilience](#)
- [CIL: Questions and answers](#)
- [Selfbuild Central: Planning permission](#)
- [CIL/S106 exemptions](#)
- [Planning for custom build housing: a practice guide](#) (aimed at local planners)
- [Planning for custom build housing: FAQs](#)
- [A simple guide to getting the CIL exemption](#)
- [SP=EED \(A practical guide to better engagement in planning in Scotland\)](#)
- [Planning for Community Developments \(A guide to the Scottish planning system\)](#)
- [Commons Sense: Co-operative place making and the capturing of land value for 21st Century Garden Cities \(Co-operatives UK\)](#)

Costings

- [Community Buildings Checker \(Locality\)](#)

Construction methods (including renovation)

- [Self-Build Portal](#)
- [Selfbuild Central](#)
- [Eco guidance](#)
- [The Green Asset Guide](#)
- [Cumbria Rural Housing Trust: A guide to sustainable construction](#)

Information for partners

- [Why local authorities should make land available for self or custom build projects](#)
- [How the public sector can help people build their own homes: A Practice Guide](#)
- [Planning for custom build housing: a practice guide](#) (aimed at local planners)
- [Planning for custom build housing: FAQs](#)
- [How private sector builders and developers can get involved in delivering more Custom Build Homes: A Practice Guide](#)
- [ResPublica: At the Crossroads, A Progressive Future for Housing Associations](#)

Community Rights

- [Urban Forum: Community Rights – A Changing Picture?](#)
- [My community rights](#)
- [You've got the power: a quick and simple guide to community rights](#)

Practical considerations

- [How does workplace health and safety law apply to self-build?](#)

International learning

- [Lessons from international self-build housing practices](#)

Design, etc

- [Making buildings work for your community](#)
- [Your Buildings Your Future: A guide to commissioning sustainable architecture for community organisations](#)

Templates

- [Cohousing allocation policy](#)
- [Sample tenancy agreement](#)
- [Holsworthy CPT: Housing allocation policy](#)
- [Code of governance](#)
- [Model policies and best practice](#)

Sources of support

National Community Land Trust Network

- [Technical assistance and support](#)
- [“See it and believe it” peer to peer learning exchange programme](#)
- [CLT events](#)

Confederation of Cooperative Housing

- [Solicitors](#)
- [Links](#)

CDS Cooperatives

- [Coop directory](#)
- [Education and training](#)
- [Services offered](#)

Cooperatives UK

- [Legal team](#)

Self-help housing

- [Directory](#)
- [Links](#)

Self-build portal

- [More sources of self-build information](#)
- [Finding a plot of land](#)
- [Suppliers directory](#)

Government policy and support

HCA

- [Community-led housing](#)
- [Community Led Project Support funding](#)
- [Community-led development](#)
- [Assorted documents](#)

Department for Communities and Local Government

- [You've got the power: a quick and simple guide to community rights](#)
- [Neighbourhood planning, etc](#)
- [Custom build](#)
- [Public sector land](#)
- [Right to Contest](#)

Scottish Government

- [Community-Led Regeneration](#)
- [Community Funds](#)
- [Empty Homes](#)
- [Self-build initiative fund](#)
- [Scottish Land Fund](#)

Miscellaneous resource collections

- [UK Cohousing Network resource library](#)
- [National CLT Network resources](#)
- [Cooperatives UK resources](#)
- [Self-build videos](#)