

## Cohousing: Next steps



The Network has been set up by cohousing groups for cohousing groups and residents. You can join as a group or as an individual member. You'll connect with other schemes, hear the latest news as well as learning and sharing with others.

One benefit of membership is access to our Practical Guide to

Cohousing. This contains five clearly delineated sections covering:
Group; Site; Plan;
Build; and Live plus supplementary pages on Design and Finance together with many useful Resources.



www.cohousing.org.uk

www.communityledhomes.org.uk

## What is cohousing?



Do you get on with your neighbours? Do you feel like you can make change in your community? Are you happy with your housing, its costs and impact on the environment? Many of us are looking for new answers to these questions. Cohousing might be a solution....

Cohousing is an exciting and growing housing movement in the UK that might offer you a more rewarding and sociable lifestyle.

Cohousing communities are neighbourhoods of 20-40 house scheme run by and for residents. Each household has a self-contained private home as well as shared community space and resources like gardens, shared kitchens, guest rooms, car-pools. Residents enjoy coming together to manage the community, share activities and socialize together.

Cohousing can work for a wide range of budgets. Residents can be home-owners, renters, social housing tenants. Schemes can be resident self or custom built or created in partnership with developers and housing associations. Cohousing schemes can be new builds or renovations of farms, mansions or urban terraces.

Even if you vaguely like the sound of Cohousing, then it's almost certainly right for you. You might hear that it isn't easy – but how 'easy' are the other ways to find a home? Now that I've done it, I can't imagine living in any other way and there's so much more in the way of advice than there was 10 years ago when we started.

[Simon Bayly, Copper Lane Cohousing, London]



LILAC in Leeds has created affordable housing on an old school site for 50 people of all ages.

A report by Dr Penny Clarke for the University of Westminster has shown that LILACs carbon footprint is 65% less than the average home.



New Ground – a group of women over 50 came together to create a community in a

new, purpose-built block of flats in North London with friendly, helpful neighbours as an alternative to living alone. (An LSE report has shown that living in Community Led Housing reduces feelings of isolation.)



Marmalade Lane
- A sustainable
neighbourhood in
North Cambridge
of 42 award-

winning homes with extensive community facilities and a sociable shared garden and carfree lane, RICS Social Impact Awards, Project of the year 2020

