



Putting people's housing needs first

The Rural Housing Enabler provides an independent liaison role between Local Authorities, housing associations, landowners and the community to explore development options to meet the needs of the community and the village. We ensure that the interests of local people in need of housing are foremost.

Addressing other housing issues of local concern

The Rural Housing Enabler areas of work include:

- **Developing different projects through working with local communities that increase the availability of affordable housing**
- **Promoting affordable housing with the RCCE team of Field Officers who facilitate community-led plans**

For more information you can contact us at:

**Rural Community Council of Essex
Threshelfords Business Park
Inworth Road
Feering
Essex CO5 9SE**

Tel: 0844 4773938 *calls are charged at local rate*

Fax: 01376 573524

Email: housing@essexrcc.org.uk

Web: www.essexrcc.org.uk

Reg. Charity No. 1097009
Reg. Company No. 4609624

Our Mission: 'To provide local communities with the skills, resources and expertise necessary to achieve a thriving and sustainable future.'

This publication is available in other formats.

This leaflet is printed in Essex on recycled paper. 



Rural Housing Enabling Service



empowering local communities

empowering local communities

At RCCE, we recognise the crucial importance of an integrated approach to sustain rural communities and advocate community-led solutions in providing affordable rural housing

Rural Housing Enabling Service at RCCE: addressing the problem

The lack of affordable housing is one of the most critical issues facing rural communities. Some of the consequences of this are:

- **People have to move away to find affordable housing which means that families are separated by distance and are less able to support each other by providing childcare or to do shopping for elderly relatives**
- **Local services such as schools and shops will become increasingly difficult to maintain without enough people using them**
- **Rural enterprise is stifled as employers are unable to find workers who can afford to live locally**

RCCE's Rural Housing Enabler works alongside rural communities towards the development of small schemes of affordable housing being built where they are needed, so that local people can remain living and working in the village.

Housing Needs Survey : raising awareness of local housing needs

Our Rural Housing Enabler can carry out a Housing Needs Survey to support planning applications. By conducting a Survey, the Rural Housing Enabler works with the Parish Council to find out how many people live within the parish need housing and determine the most appropriate type of accommodation.

The local community establishes the level of housing need in the village by filling in a questionnaire, delivered to every household. The Housing Needs Survey provides everyone in the community with the opportunity to express their views and highlight their needs.



Strategic Role of RCCE Rural Housing Enabler

Working in partnership with statutory and voluntary sector organisations, the Rural Housing Enabler ensures that the issue of affordable housing is kept as a high priority. As a result housing needs of rural communities are represented at local, regional and national levels.

If you would like to discuss the housing needs in your community, call RCCE on **0844 4773938** or email housing@essexrcc.org.uk

Check our website www.essexrcc.org.uk for more in-depth information on Rural Housing issues.