Addressing housing need and offering services across tenures

Featuring Pamela Humphries, Annette Finnan & Cameron Mitchell





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The relationship with Local Authorities in Lanarkshire and East Dunbartonshire is the bedrock on which Clyde Valley Housing Association operates. It's a collaborative process that focuses on a wide range of different solutions and options to address the housing needs of local people.

Pamela Humphries, Head of Planning and Regeneration, North Lanarkshire Council

"The relationship with Clyde Valley Housing Association (CVHA) has been a long-standing one and dates back to the original formation of the Association. They are an important part of helping us to deliver the Strategic Housing Investment Programme, Clyde Valley has built a strong reputation for taking on challenging and ambitious projects, a track-record which dates back to the re-development of Old Monklands in the 90s. The willingness to take on tough but important projects can be seen throughout North Lanarkshire to this day, for example the refurbishment of Carnegie Library in Coatbridge.

"It's a real benefit that they have tackled non-domestic projects which also can help to rejuvenate communities, for example the development of Wellwynd Church in Airdrie. We are totally committed to meeting the housing need in our area. While we are facing unique and challenging times, now more than ever before we need to work with all RSLs including Clyde Valley to understand local demand and respond with the right housing for our communities. The relationships developers such as Clyde Valley have with local suppliers is also key to supporting the regional economy when it's under the most pressure. It's a team effort and great to be working in partnership."

Annette Finnan, Head of Housing Services, South Lanarkshire Council

"The contribution RSLs play in providing good quality housing to meet need is crucial. As one of the largest providers of housing and services locally, CVHA are strategically important, playing a vital role in meeting housing need in South Lanarkshire since they were set up in 1996.

"CVHA are a high-performing organisation that aims to work collaboratively to achieve the best results for individuals and communities. The organisation has a track record of re-shaping to develop and provide innovative, high-quality housing and services.

"The HomeFinder, CHR (Common Housing Register Partnership) was established in 2009 to make it easier for people to apply for and access social rented housing in South Lanarkshire. CVHA were a leading and founding member of this partnership and their commitment has been central to its success ever since.

"Over the past 20 years CVHA has also been a leading developer of new social rented housing in South Lanarkshire, working closely with the Council to ensure new housing is provided in the areas of greatest need and built to the highest of standards.

"Recently CVHA took a lead in establishing the Development Forum which brings social landlords who are developing new housing together. The forum provides a vehicle to share knowledge and understanding of the strategic housing needs and demand assessment, of the overall local affordable housing programme

and promote a collective approach to ensuring the right housing is developed in the right places.

"Working in partnership to achieve shared priorities around housing need was evidenced through the process to develop South Lanarkshire's Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan. CVHA were among the first organisations to provide a Partner Contribution Statement detailing the specific contribution they would commit to, in relation to preventing and alleviating homelessness.

"Openness to dialogue, the willingness to share ideas and promotion of mutual learning make CVHA stand out. Over the years we have worked to develop our relationship and ensure that we have the right links at the right levels across our organisations."

Cameron Mitchell, Strategy and Support Services Manager, South Lanarkshire Council

"The council and CVHA have a long track record working together which has helped improve housing services and strategy within the area. In terms of the development of new homes, there are 21 Housing Associations in South Lanarkshire and Clyde Valley has made a really significant contribution in terms of scale and impact. They have ambition and reach and are especially good at carefully proposing schemes and joint projects which support our wider role as Strategic housing provider, enabler and advisor. Thinking big and understanding the wider picture while delivering on the ground is so important in this sector."