

10 years of consortia working



Affordable Housing in Cambourne

Construction started on the new village of Cambourne in 1998. Circle, Cambridge Housing Society and Granta Housing Society were asked to work together to deliver the affordable housing for this new community.

Ten years later, the three housing providers are still building housing of the highest quality and working with Taylor Wimpey and Bovis on proposals for an additional 950 homes.

The success of this Cambourne Consortia can be attributed to a number of factors:

Communication – The group identified Circle to act as the lead RP ensuring that one key point of contact streamlined communication for stakeholders.

Partnering – Issues have always been tackled as a team. Regular CORE group meetings with consultants and contractors and specific project review meetings have ensured continuity of approach.

Innovation and quality have always been a priority for the RP's at Cambourne. In 2004 Circle 33 completed eco homes on site with solar thermal, photo voltaic units, winter gardens and passive ventilation. In Upper Cambourne the RP'S build to code level 3, achieving code level 4 on one house by adding photo voltaic panels.

Community involvement – The RP's employed a Community Development worker in 2003 to help build effective relationships between residents and generate a sense of social cohesion.

Influencing developers – all of the affordable housing built at Cambourne has received the approval and support of the developers. Circle sit on the developers group working towards an additional 950 private and affordable homes.

Stakeholder liaison - The RP's work closely with local stakeholders including the local authority, the Parish Council, local schools and the health centre ensuring an effective flow of communication.

Cambourne is now a vibrant community and a popular place to live. Circle, its RP'S, contractors and consultants continue to improve Life Chances for new and existing residents of Cambourne.



For further information

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