

# What is a housing association?

NATIONAL  
HOUSING  
FEDERATION

Housing associations are social landlords, providing a home for **more than six million people** in England.

They are social landlords because they are independent, non-profit organisations driven by social purpose – **reinvesting all their profit back into people**, by building new homes and investing in communities. Their focus is on providing homes at prices people can afford.

There are **almost 1,500 housing associations across the country**, and in every type of community, from inner cities to rural villages.

And **they are incredibly diverse** – some own or manage fewer than 10 homes and others more than 50,000 homes, some run housing schemes for people with support needs, and some provide shared ownership to help people buy their first home.

But this diversity is united by a single **housing association purpose** – **to ensure everyone in the country can live in a quality home that they can afford.**

There are almost  
**1,500**  
housing associations  
across England

They invest **ALL**  
profit back into  
people



by building new homes and  
investing in communities

# Housing associations...

## Have an offer for everyone

Housing associations offer homes for a wide range of people, including young people, families, first-time buyers, older people, and vulnerable people who need support. In fact, they are **the largest provider of supported and sheltered housing in the country**, providing invaluable support to **almost half a million people**.

These homes are for people with disabilities, and those fleeing domestic violence, as well as hostels for the homeless and transitional schemes for people with mental health difficulties. Housing associations have **an offer for everyone at every stage of their lives**.



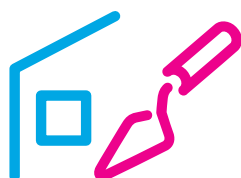
Housing associations provide  
**500,000**  
people with  
invaluable support

## Deliver for the country

On top of managing existing homes and communities, housing associations are committed to ending the housing crisis by building the new homes our country so desperately needs.

Currently, **housing associations build a quarter of all new homes every year**, and are the largest providers of new social housing in the country.

And they are ambitious about building even more new homes. **In 2018, they built 44,000 new homes**, which was **an increase of 12.7%** on the previous year.



Housing associations built  
**44,000**  
new homes in 2018

## Are about more than just homes

Housing associations **add nearly £22.5bn to the economy every year**, as well as **supporting almost 300,000 jobs** and directly employing over 140,000 people in England.

That's because **housing associations invest in community initiatives**, from providing employment training to help people back into work, to running community centres with different classes and activities.

The benefit of their work is felt across the country – **housing associations spend an average of £58 per home on community investment**.



Housing associations add  
**£22.5bn**  
to the UK economy  
every year



**£58 per home**

is the average amount housing associations spend on community investment



If you share this sense of purpose, **we want to work with you.**  
If you want to end the housing crisis, **you need to work with us.**