

It Takes a City Community Land Trust

Somewhere to Call Home

There is a pressing need to house those taken off the streets during COVID-19. It Takes a City (ITAC) Community Land Trust was formed in 2020 by the ITAC housing group to facilitate the provision of supported homes through social investment for rough sleepers and those stuck in hostel accommodation. It coordinates land acquisition, planning, construction of homes, infrastructure, support and housing management. It aims to provide 20 supported homes a year, building lives and communities. Will you come on board?

Land – we are working through a number of possible sites, land that we can rent for a number of years and / or purchase, for schemes of size 6 homes and upwards. Larger sites will be “hubs”, with many smaller satellite sites. We have our eye on one hub site, drawn here with 20 homes plus a community centre, on land known as “teardrop” at Milton: we have a willing landowner and some planning constraints. We are close to securing an alternative site with a willing landowner and perhaps fewer planning constraints. We are shortlisting a number of other sites.



Homes – we have initiated the construction of a number of very small self-contained single detached homes using modern modular technology. They are built in a training environment for young people and others needing help to get back into work. A previous project led by one of our Directors installed 6 such homes at Christ the Redeemer Church in Cambridge on Newmarket Road.

Schemes – we will use the homes to create micro-communities where former rough sleepers can feel at home, safe and secure, with access to support. Partner groups and co-located enterprises (at hub sites) will provide mentoring and employment opportunities combined with professional support from organisations such as Jimmy’s Cambridge, to address the issues that brought our residents to homelessness and prevent their return to the streets. We will have the flexibility to provide truly affordable rents for residents whether in or out of work. There will be accommodation for site wardens and community workers to help keep people stay safe and become connected.

Finance – investors can purchase the micro-homes directly and lease them to us when installed on our sites. Or they can invest in one of our Share Schemes. Our first Share Scheme is raising the costs for planning applications, professional fees, fund raising and project management for our first site. Our next Share Scheme will raise the funds for delivery of our first site ready for occupancy. We will also be able to accept donations.

We are looking for people to work with us in communications, community engagement, fund raising, planning applications, site acquisition and infrastructure, project management and operations. For further details please contact Rebecca Howard on rebeccahoward997@gmail.com 07794 423927 or Chris Jenkin on chris@itacclt.org.uk 07831 547 643.
