

A Development Agency service focussed on meeting *your* needs

As an independent consultancy, HATC's only focus is on its clients. We do not have our own programme of schemes, and so we are not tempted to prioritise those schemes before yours. As our client, you are always the top priority.

There are a number of other advantages to using HATC as your Development Agent:

- Experience: the HATC project staff have between 8 and 25 years of experience in delivering Grant-funded affordable housing;
- Expertise:
 - In project management - HATC is led by Andrew Drury, a professionally qualified project manager, leading to a more rigorous approach;
 - In Grant rules and policy background – the Housing Corporation (HC) commissioned HATC to update their HC Capital Funding Guide in 2007. We also authored in 2008 “*Achieving Building for Life*” for the HC, and “*Guide to Standards & Quality in New Development*” for the National Housing Federation. This strength in the policy arena helps us deliver good-quality projects;
- You choose your consultants and contractors – you would not be limited to the people on someone else's Framework Agreement. Of course, we can recommend if you wish, but the choice is yours;
- Less bureaucracy – some Development Agents drag your schemes through their own internal processes, slowing things down. We don't have to do that, reducing the bureaucracy;
- Your HATC Project Manager will see the scheme through from inception to completion.

We don't have messy handovers from (for example) a pre-site team to an on-site team. This provides useful continuity;

- Strong procedural guidance - we will, of course, follow your own internal procedures when managing your schemes. However, we can also draw upon the *Online Project Management Procedures for Housing Associations* (OPMP), which we jointly authored, if the client's own procedures need augmenting. This can be helpful to smaller clients who may not have detailed guidance available. OPMP complies with both Grant requirements as well as industry good-practice;
- Design Standards - as the leading consultancy providing design guidance to affordable housing Providers nationally, we can provide a good-practice Design Brief to ensure that our clients schemes are of suitable quality. Like the use of OPMP, this is offered as support to clients who want it. Our starting point on your design standards will be your own Design Brief, of course, if you have one. If not, we can help;
- Competitive fees – we are a relatively small organisation with lower overheads than many other organisations offering Development Agency services. Our pricing is therefore very competitive.

If you would like to discuss how we can provide Development Agency services for you, please call Andrew Drury or Dai Howells on 01943 604259 or email: enquiries@hatc.co.uk