

THE HISTORY OF YORK HOUSING ASSOCIATION

The 1960's

York Housing Association (York HA) was founded in 1964, contemporaneous with York's new University.

Our first property was a terraced house in Bootham Crescent, followed by the conversion of two adjoining properties in Marygate to student accommodation. One cost £1912 to buy and the other was £1958, with conversion costing a further £2900. The property in Marygate was sold in 2008 for £382,500 with the proceeds being invested in future developments.

Further student accommodation was provided in Heslington Road. This property was converted from a shared house into a single family home in 2008.

In the 1960's, all the work of the Association was carried out by a Committee, on a voluntary basis. York HA had no offices at first; meetings were held on University premises at Kings' Manor. We later used a converted shop front at 142 Micklegate.

The 1970's

The Association employs its first paid housing manager. Long before it becomes fashionable, York HA does two pioneering "Homes Above the Shop" schemes in Micklegate, working closely with the University Design Unit and the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies.

The Association registers with the Housing Corporation in 1975.

The first newbuild scheme at McHugh Court is completed, opening in time for the 1975/76 academic year. This development provides 27 houses for student families.

The Association opens offices at 2 Newgate overlooking The Shambles in the centre of York.



Homes above the Shop.



Student family at McHugh Court

The 1980's

The Civic Trust and RIBA Building Design Awards go to the newbuild scheme at Bretgate, establishing the Association's reputation for design and for imaginative use of inner city development sites.

Through a Transfer of Engagements from Viking Housing Society, York HA takes on its largest general needs/elderly scheme, newly built by Viking at Rothwell, Leeds.

In partnership with York Mind, Supported Housing Schemes are developed for people with mental health problems. Support workers are employed.

The opening of Margaret Philipson Court, named after York HA Housing Manager in its early years, is the Association's contribution to the regeneration of the Aldwark area.



Bretgate

Tenants at Rothwell, Leeds



Margaret Philipson Court

The 1990's

Tuke HA chooses York HA to be its managing agent.

The Association develops a series of schemes for people with learning disabilities, expanding our stock into Ryedale, Scarborough and the East Riding. We begin to provide accommodation for homeless households through conversions and private sector leasing initiatives.

Introduction of Floating Support service, enabling the Association's own support workers to assist people in their own homes.

Introduction of the Repairs Hotline.

Enthusiastic gardeners enter for the annual "YHA in Bloom" competitions in droves.

Increasing staff numbers mean a move to larger offices at Micklegate, York



In Bloom competition
Best Recycled Display



Micklegate Offices

The 21st Century

East Riding of Yorkshire Council chooses York HA as a specialist supported housing partner.

We employ our Property Maintenance Worker to carry out minor repairs.

The York HA website is launched.

Customer Panels set up consisting of up to 15 tenants, to act as a focus group on tenant issues.

"Green" schemes at Fieldside Place and Boundary Close demonstrate our commitment to keeping running costs low for tenants.

York HA moves again, this time to a purpose built office at Monks Cross.

North and North East Lincolnshire Council both choose York HA to provide Floating Support to BME households.

Poppleton House is demolished and redeveloped to provide 5 houses and 14 flats.

York HA works in partnership with Scarborough DC to provide temporary accommodation to 24 households in Kealia Court.



Top left: Property Maintenance Worker
Bottom left: Tenants at Fieldside Place

Top right: Head Office at Alpha Court, York
Bottom right: Tenants at Poppleton Gate House

We embark on a joint initiative with Tees Valley Housing (part of the Fabrick Group) to redevelop three sites in York formerly occupied by 'Discus' bungalows.



The Old Discus Bungalows

The successful partnership, also involving local residents, the City Council and Southdale as the contractor, result in the completion of new replacement bungalows and York's first purpose built extra care scheme, Auden House. As well as our own properties we also begin to provide housing management services on behalf of Tees Valley on the second Discus site at Richmond Street.



Tenants receiving their new keys



Auden House