



About Us

Fusion is a non-for-profit making charity working to help individuals who are experiencing housing related problems and need support with learning and employment.

There are currently around 90 members of staff employed by Fusion Housing and an annual turnover in excess of £5 million.

Fusion Housing was created in 2010 but its roots in Kirklees go back much further. Fusion Housing grew out of the joining of SHAP which supported people to successfully maintain and keep their tenancies and a Learning & Employment service and CHAS whose basis in Kirklees was providing housing advice and a Bond Guarantee Scheme.

Fusion's Mission is to **'empower people to make informed life choices and to actively take part in shaping a positive future for themselves and their communities'**.

Fusion aims to ensure that individuals and families have access to suitable, affordable accommodation along with the skills needed to successfully manage and keep that accommodation. Our services are delivered using a person centred, strengths-based approach. Most individuals accessing our services are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The work we do is to prevent further homelessness.

As the organisation has grown the services we provide have developed and we now provide a range of services across Kirklees, Wakefield and Calderdale including:

- **Our Initial Contact Service** is the first point of contact for individuals accessing our services. Our workers will discuss and assess the issues a person brings to ensure that they are sign posted to the right service to meet their individual needs. We work with individuals and other agencies to provide a holistic balanced and professional service.
- **Our Specialist Legal Advice Service** helps with Housing matters and representation at Housing Possession hearings in the county courts in Huddersfield and Wakefield.
- **Our Housing Related Support Services** as part of the Kirklees Better Outcomes Partnership (KBOP) helps clients find a place to live, maintain a home, and build the skills needed to manage independently addressing the wider issues that create barriers.
- **Our Homes Service** provides Managed Properties for clients who need a level of tenancy support attached to their accommodation across Kirklees, Calderdale and Wakefield; primarily in self- contained accommodation but with some shared housing for up to 2 years. Assistance is provided to move on to suitable, affordable accommodation. Alongside this we run a Tenancy Deposit Service to assist people to access private sector accommodation.
- **Our Learning and Employment Service** provides range of informal and accredited learning opportunities, information, advice and guidance to support young people into education, employment and training – including the Works Better programme.
- **Our Food Bank Service** is based in our offices in Dewsbury and serves the North Kirklees area and running alongside a Furniture Grants Scheme.

Strategic Planning:

Our three-year Business Plan for April 2021 – March 2024

Key areas for future development already identified are:

- To become a provider of social housing registered under the Housing & Regeneration Act 2008.
- To extend our Housing Advice Services in Wakefield and potentially into Calderdale.
- To develop an outcome based 'Donor' income stream.

Our bi-annual Staff Conference structure will continue to play a role in these developments and to identify other areas.

The Covid19 pandemic has raised major issues for people who need access to our services and we have adapted by implementing new ways of communicating with and supporting our clients. There is a need to learn from this and continue to work in a way that works well for our clients and staff