

FINALIST PROFILE



HOLLY MESSENGER

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER AT WOKINGHAM HOUSING



I LOVE WORKING IN HOUSING BECAUSE ...

There isn't a single reason why I love working in housing; there are number of reasons that all come together in my job.

Working in the development side of housing, I am fortunate enough to see an idea become a reality. Being involved from concept, through design, planning and eventual construction means I get to shape the homes individuals receive and see the positive impact they have made.

It is great to receive positive feedback from a new tenant who has been on the housing register for a long time as it reinforces why we do what we do. In my role in particular, I love how the organisation for which I work is breaking new ground and able to offer brand new properties at affordable rent across a mix of tenures. This stands to make a real impact to my and future generations as they try to access housing.

MY PROUDEST ACHIEVEMENT IN HOUSING IS ...

I was proud of myself when I completed my Postgraduate Certificate in Housing and became a chartered member of the CIH. It cemented my career aspirations and taught me a lot.

I am proud to work in housing in general. As a sector, it makes a real day-to-day contribution to thousands of people. However, I am most proud of being part of the team that delivered over 120 homes in the last financial year to realise the ambitious idea of the organisation for which I work and the council that owns it. Being significantly involved in delivering these homes taught me the fundamentals of the role I do now and showed me how an innovative new company can find new ways to respond to challenges and deliver high quality affordable homes to people that need it most.