



North West Housing Services  
The First Agency Accredited  
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# North West Housing Services

- Established as a co-op/mutual in May 2006
- 44 members
- 33 staff
- A provider of high quality services to co-operatives, small housing associations and social enterprises
- Not-for-profit
- Make surplus

# Why Seek CCH Accreditation?

- Co-operative Housing
  - 686 housing co-operatives in UK
  - 61,000 members
- Wider Co-operative Membership
  - 2010 12.8m
  - 2009 12.9m
  - 2008 11.3m

# Why Seek CCH Accreditation?

- Co-operative housing provides
  - Financial social and personal benefits to members
  - Strong communities
  - Community control
- Accreditation helps achieve
  - A cohesive sector
  - Improved standards
  - A voice for the movement
  - The development of further housing co-ops
  - Benefits for NWHS

# The Process

- CCH
  - Registration
  - Self-assessment
  - Validation visit
- Internal
  - Project team
  - Self-assessment
  - Gathering evidence
  - Preparing for validation

## Individual Co-op Accreditation

- Improving individual co-op standards
- Strengthening the CCH
- Encouraging co-operation between co-ops
- Speaking with one voice
- General development of the co-op movement

# The Future of Co-operative Housing

- Context: corporate failure
- A stronger CCH
- Engagement with the Co-operative Party, Co-operatives UK and the Government
- Improving performance as a sector
- Publicising our work
- Working together