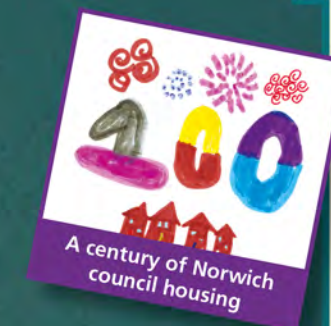


# A century of Norwich council housing

A large demand for housing throughout Britain led to the 1919 Housing Act, promising government subsidies to help finance the construction of homes across the country. As we celebrate a century of Norwich council housing, we look back over the city's proud legacy.



**1919**

The Housing Act, known as the Addison Act, is published, promising 'Homes for Heroes'.

**1930**

The Housing Act obliges councils to clear all remaining slums. By 1938, the council had demolished 2,280 homes and built 2,346 homes to replace them.

**1940s**

To meet the urgent post-war need for replacement housing, 350 prefabricated houses, designed to last ten years, are built in areas such as Ketts Hill and Tuckswood.



**1947**

West Earlham estate is built, some of the first homes with 'whole house' heating.

**1966**

Construction on Normandie Tower and Winchester Tower begins.



**1967**

Heathgate is built.

**1974**

Construction begins in Bowthorpe, the last purpose built estate.

**1981**

The Right to Buy scheme is introduced by central government, giving council tenants the right to purchase their home at a discounted price. In the first two years of the scheme, 1,000 Norwich tenants buy their homes.

**1990s**

The council's role as landlord changes from 'building' homes to 'enabling', working in partnership with housing associations and registered social housing landlords.

Sheltered housing at Fellowes Close (1990) and Singer Court (1992) are built.



**2010**

Decent Homes standard is introduced by central government.

**2012**

Norwich Standard is introduced to go above and beyond Decent Homes Criteria.

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

2020

**1920**

The first council home is built on Angel Road in October.

**1920**

Mile Cross is born; the first major housing estate built by the council.



**1935**

Some of the city's first flats are built on Union Street.

**1938**

Larkman estate is built.

**1945**

The City of Norwich Plan is formed, proposing future housing for the city.

Many of the estates around this time were influenced by Ebenezer Howard and The Garden City Movement at the end of the 19th century; this is why many properties built at this time have large gardens.

**1950s**

When post-war restrictions end, building begins on the Heartsease estate.

**1959**

Norwich won the 'Good Design in Housing' award from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, for building Alderson Place in Finkelgate.

**1964**

11-storey Compass Tower (Heartsease) is built.

**1970s**

Norwich has the highest proportion of council housing of any city in the country.

**1976**

The last surviving prefab homes are removed from the city.



**1986**

Homes on Mousehold Heath are built.

**1999**

Bowers Avenue development is built.

**2016**

Riley Close is built.

**2017**

Hansard Close is built.



**2019**

Goldsmith Street is built.

To find out more about our 100 year celebrations and share your memories, visit [www.norwich.gov.uk/housing100](http://www.norwich.gov.uk/housing100)