

NCLT Director Tom Chance reflects on the all the CLT movement has achieved in 2018.

I can't be the only person in the CLT movement feeling overwhelmed by what happened in 2018. What a year!

I only started to work for the network two years ago, having followed its work for many years previously. But 2016 feels a world away, as our movement really starts to take off. You've all had a really busy year.

We've had 61 new CLTs come through our Start Up Fund: such a rush of demand that the fund is now fully allocated and closed to applications. Many more have started with the help of their Enabling Hubs, so the number of CLTs is now well over 300. CLTs like Knaresborough in Yorkshire and London CLT secured new sites. Lots of you got planning permissions, like RUSS for its 33 homes in Lewisham, Yorspace with 19 homes in York and **Bridport cohousing CLT now with permission for 53 homes in Dorset.**

Some lucky CLTs got building, among them Thrift for Soham CLT in Cambridgeshire, Appledore CLT in Devon and Homebaked CLT in Liverpool. Lyme Regis CLT was among those completing homes; they found themselves oversubscribed three times over. New Enabling Hubs have also got started in Birmingham and Manchester, and in the New Year we'll be launching a new fund to help grow the coverage across England.

This has come from a government grant to us in partnership with UK Cohousing, the Confederation of Cooperative Housing and Locality. This has been a huge amount of work, but we're really excited about the fruit it should bear in the next couple of years.

The team and I love to hear your stories, so we were pleased as punch to meet up with over 100 of you at our 4 member events and AGM. You shared your thoughts on our future direction, and told us you wanted more help persuading your councils. So, in the New Year, we'll launch a new local advocacy campaign.