

# EN:VISION

Issue #1 October 2014



## We are now Efficiency North Limited!



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Rotherham

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Partnership steps up  
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# We are now Efficiency North Limited!



The Board of Efficiency North is pleased to announce that the consortium was on Monday 28 July incorporated as a private company in public sector ownership, limited by guarantee, with no share capital.

As Efficiency North Limited the company will continue to serve its membership of registered providers representing over two thirds of social housing located within Yorkshire and the Humber with innovative and intelligent procurement frameworks, an engaging programme of best practice and knowledge sharing events and funding for community projects. The new company format of Efficiency North will enable the business to be more efficient in its operations and respond more quickly to membership demands and opportunities for service enhancement.

Lee Parkinson continues to lead Efficiency North Limited as its Chief Executive Officer and statutory processes are already underway to transfer existing staff into the new company. The Board of the company will continue to be chaired by Mick Werritt of St Leger Homes of Doncaster Limited with a shadow board consisting of legacy board members, however additional new board members will be recruited from the consortium's membership towards the end of the year.

"Moving from a management committee model to a limited company is a significant step for the consortium and one that all of the Board believe will bring about significant operating and service improvements to our membership. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank Sheffield City Council for their support over the years as the host for the consortium and we very much look forward to continuing the strong development curve that the management team of the consortium have achieved in recent years."

**Mick Werritt, Chair Efficiency North Ltd, Investment Director St Leger Homes Ltd**



"Making the transition from a management committee to a company has taken a significant amount of effort and has required the trust and support of the Board and the existing staff. I personally would like to thank all of them for their commitment to the consortium and its members and I very much look forward to leading the consortium into the next chapter of its history and developing our service offer for the benefit of our members and their communities further."

**Lee Parkinson, Chief Executive Officer Efficiency North Ltd**



# New era begins at Magna 34 Rotherham

On 1 September 2014 the Efficiency North Limited team moved into premises just off the M1 Junction 34 at Magna 34 Business Park, Templeborough, following the consortium's incorporation as a private company in public sector ownership.

After being located within Sheffield City Council, for the past 8 years, Efficiency North Limited is looking forward to a new era. It's hoped the consortium's new format and location will improve operational efficiency and its capacity to respond faster and more effectively to membership demands, and develop opportunities to enhance its service delivery to housing providers across the region. Normal service and day to day activities have continued throughout the transition, including the procurement of the new installers framework and the launch of the third round of the Frameworks 4 Good Fund which offers grant funding to groups in the communities of Efficiency North's membership.

The consortium's brand has also had a facelift to reflect the new era in its evolution. The new logo focusses on the consortium's commitment to collaboration to achieve its core aims in support of the region's housing maintenance and construction supply chain community – efficiency savings, employment and skills, social and economic regeneration, and environmental sustainability. Chief Executive Officer Lee Parkinson commented, "The team are all really looking forward to settling in to our new business residence in Rotherham. This is a great location for us, being in such close proximity not only to Rotherham's beacon attraction, the Magna centre, but also to excellent transport links placing us within an hour's travelling distance of all but a few of our members, which will allow us to maintain closer day to day contact,



and thereby increase our support of them in the delivery of value for money, economic and social regeneration for their local communities in the region."

## Email changes

The team will no longer be able to send and receive email from the previous @sheffield.gov.uk addresses.

To keep in touch, please don't forget to update your contacts database with the team's @efficiencynorth.org addresses, standard format [firstname.surname@efficiencynorth.org](mailto:firstname.surname@efficiencynorth.org)

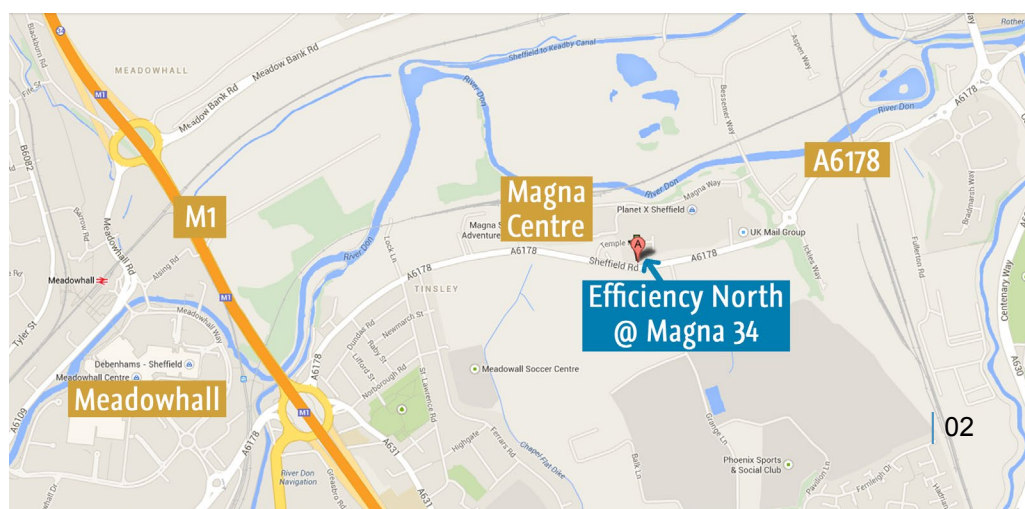
For all general enquiries please use [info@efficiencynorth.org](mailto:info@efficiencynorth.org)

## Efficiency North Limited's new address is

Unit A06  
Magna 34 Business Park  
Temple Road  
Rotherham  
S60 1FG

## Our new office phone number is

0330 6061460





## Efficiency North's Frameworks 4 Good Fund now open

For its 3rd year running, the fund is offering grants of up to £5k to community groups to target support for economic and social regeneration in local communities



After 2 successful rounds of funding in the past 2 years, in which over £100k funding has been awarded to over 30 local community projects across Yorkshire and Humber, Efficiency North's Frameworks 4 Good Fund is now open for applications for up to £5k for a third consecutive year.

The Fund was established in 2012 to target support of local social and economic regeneration, with a Funding Pot made up from contributions gathered every year through Efficiency North's frameworks to add value to efficiency savings achieved for local authority and housing association members. To qualify for funding, projects must be located within the communities of Efficiency North member organisations using the frameworks, and be sponsored by one of those organisations.

The 4 Good Fund is managed by a Panel of contractors and tenant representatives and opens for applications once each year. It aims to support projects that are sustainable, provide local employment opportunities, encourage self-sufficiency, and that will provide long term benefits for their communities.

Over £100k has already been awarded to 30+ local community projects across Yorkshire & Humber, re-investing right at the heart of the region.

### Funding Round 3 launched at Hull's Guildhall

A special event to launch the fund was held at the Guildhall in Hull on Wednesday 20 August this year, when Efficiency North were delighted to welcome speakers from 2 of the projects previously backed by the 4 Good Fund; Ray Newton, Chair of Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Association and David Plumtree, leader of Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire project for young people, Café Indie. Both talked about their experience of the 4 Good Fund application process, offered tips based on their own successful approach, and gave details of the difference that funding received has made to their projects and local communities, which was very well received by an audience made up of community group leaders from throughout the region.

Efficiency North Ltd Chief Executive Lee Parkinson commented, "It's humbling to witness how much hard work is done on the ground to transform lives in the communities our member landlords serve. Efficiency North is pleased to be able to offer its support of these efforts through



"We are extremely grateful for the support given to our community by the Efficiency North 4 Good Fund. It has enabled us to fulfil part of our ambition to redevelop our Community Centre to be able to accommodate much needed village, socially inclusive, Youth, Family and other activities and has created jobs and work experience for local people. We have been able to spend the grant locally, which has helped nurture our businesses, builders, craftsmen and material suppliers. This is a real win-win as the money is generated from a voluntary levy from companies working in the public housing sector. I am sure that the grant will touch and be of benefit to thousands of current and future residents of Monk Fryston, Hillam and other local villages and has helped provide a lasting legacy for our Community. Thank you Efficiency North for your support."

**Ray Newton, Chair of Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Association**

procurement that not only achieves efficiencies, but also converts those savings into real money that can be re-invested right at the heart of the region."

Groups interested in applying for funding this year should go to <http://www.efficiencynorth.org/what-we-do/4-good-fund/> to download an application pack.

The deadline for applications in 2014 is 5pm Friday 24 October.



## The fund is making a real difference to people's lives in frameworks users' communities.

These are just a sample of the many inspiring and innovative projects that received backing when the Fund opened last year.



Cafe Indie, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire, Scunthorpe



Unity in Community, Hull



Dove House Hospice pond, Hull



2 <Way> Street, Leeds

In recognition of its achievements to date offering an innovative use of procurement to secure significant efficiencies and convert savings into real money that can transform real lives, the Fund has been shortlisted for 2 prestigious national awards for Corporate Social Responsibility this year: the GO Excellence in Public Procurement Awards and the CIPS Supply Management Awards.



All entries into the GO Excellence in Public Procurement Awards were reviewed by a panel of ten judges made up of experts in UK procurement including Sally Collier, the UK Government's Deputy Chief Procurement Officer and Acting Managing Director of the Government Procurement

Service; Alastair Merrill, Director, Procurement and Commercial, at the Scottish Government; and Michael O'Toole, Crown Representative for Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises (VCSEs).

The winners were revealed at a ceremony held on the evening of Wednesday 19 March 2014 at the Hilton Metropole Hotel in Birmingham.

The Sustainability or Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative of the Year Award, for which the 4 Good Fund was a shortlisted finalist, was won by the Scottish Government Procurement Team.



A CIPS Supply Management Award is the most prestigious recognition a company or individual in the procurement and supply chain profession can receive. The 13-strong judging panel for 2014, chaired by Andrew Newnham, Group Procurement Director at ITV, assessed all entries in a rigorous two stage process before selecting the winners in each of the 14 award categories and

the overall winner from the 12 team categories.

The Awards Ceremony, held on Thursday 11th September at the Grosvenor House Hotel on Park Lane, London, and compered by film, TV and stage actor Stephen Mangan, brought together a record attendance of top talent to celebrate excellence in procurement and supply management

BT were the winners of the Best Contribution to Corporate Responsibility Award, chosen from a shortlist that also included Capgemini, F. Hoffman-La Roche, Marks and Spencer, the Scottish Government and Surrey County Council.



# The Re:allies Partnership steps up to the Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge



renew • rebuild • regenerate

On Saturday 2 August 2014 the Efficiency North team alongside friends from member organisations joined Procure Plus partner consortium friends from across the Pennines to step out on the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge together as the Re:allies team. The team's first challenge was to scale the 3 hills of Pen-y-ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough, in 12 hours. Their second was to raise funds in aid of Shelter, the national charity which champions the homeless.

The weather forecast for the day warned of rain, but the thick mists, heavy downpours and strong winds battering the summit of Whernside took the team further out of their comfort zone than expected. The team pulled together, everyone helping each other keep smiling through the discomforts of aching legs, soggy boots and blistered feet, to the final steps down from the much sunnier slopes of Pen-y-ghent. Although the challenge was tough, the experience was enhanced by the assistance of three guides from Adventure Café. They knew the routes and could point out various points of interest and spectacular views – whenever the team of walkers weren't surrounded by mist!

The team's adventurous 24.5 mile trek has raised £4,200 so far thanks to many generous donations. They would like to continue to raise even more in

"It was a truly great, unforgettable experience. Everybody worked together really well and everyone seemed to enjoy it. Efficiency North were delighted to be able to contribute to such a worthwhile cause alongside our Procure Plus friends as Team Re:allies."

**Carl Bairstow, Project Manager, Efficiency North Ltd**

support of a charity that means so much to them, understanding the terrible impact that homelessness can have on people's lives. Shelter doesn't only raise awareness and money, but also offers free, confidential advice to people with all kinds of housing problems and works together with housing professionals to help resolve them. The charity also lobbies the Government and local authorities to push for fairer housing laws and policies.



## A Year in the Life

First YORfuture apprentice Evan Williams tells about completing his first year Marketing qualification ahead of schedule

It's now a year since I started out as Business and Marketing Support Assistant at Efficiency North, I've completed my NVQ Level 2 and I've learnt more in one year than I did in the 3 years that preceded it. I've been to all sorts of events, met all sorts of people, and am now a fully-fledged basic marketing skills genius.

Having finished my first year, my latest task is to write this blog reflecting on what I have done and how I feel it went. To begin with I would say for me it's been a definite success (you'll have to ask the others what they think). I feel that I have progressed in many more ways than I thought I would, outside of work as well as in it. I've found that mainly due to the fact I'm enjoying what I do, everything that I struggled with in the past is a lot easier and I have let go of many of the issues that I once had. A lot of this is

down to the people around me during my time in Moorfoot, who have taught me about responsibility and work ethic as well as social housing. They've not been afraid to give me a nudge when I start slipping into old habits but they've also let me know when I've been doing well which has helped me to gain belief in my abilities.

One of my favourite parts of work is going to different events and places, from the CIH Conference and TeenTech to the Golden Bolt Ceremony at Morley Newlands School. I've been asked to do something different at every event I've been to which has meant that I've picked up new skills and experiences rather than doing the same thing over and over. All of this has contributed to the portfolio I've been working on for my qualification, and all of the different things I've been up to over the year enabled me to

complete my NVQ before it was due, as I've had much more to write about than I would have if I spent all of my time at my desk.

As I got further into the year I was asked to take on bigger tasks. These included the YORbuild Contractors Guide I compiled which was the first publication I did completely on my own. Doing pieces like the Contractors Guide were probably what I have gained most from, especially as it was work that I did myself, and has also prepared me for when I start my NVQ Level 3 in August as I will be doing much more similar work.

This year has been very enjoyable for me, and has given me a sense of what I want to do in the future. I'd like to say thank you to everyone who has helped me throughout the last 12 months and I'm now looking forward to starting my Level 3 qualification.



# Next generation EN Procure Installers Framework out to tender

Efficiency North Limited is now inviting contractors of all sizes to tender for their new EN Procure Installers Framework, which aims to source the best in a wide range of disciplines to build a leading edge supply chain for the consortium's members.

The next generation framework, which will replace the current EN Procure Elemental Works Framework when it ends in November 2015, has an estimated demand of £360m. It is envisaged that the new framework will be available from April 2015 with a duration of 4 years.

The new EN Procure Installers Framework, which can be accessed by members of Efficiency North, will offer integrated provision for housing providers' planned and cyclical maintenance projects, including kitchen and bathroom installation, heating and ventilation, electrical installation, brickwork and masonry, renewable heating and ventilation, roofing, general building works, painting, estates improvements, external works, adaptations, solar photovoltaic installations, fire precaution works, and whole house improvement works.

The framework's structure is intended to offer contract opportunities to a wide variety of construction contractors of all sizes, with a real prospect for micro, small and medium-sized companies to win social housing installations work in their own neighbourhoods.

In line with Efficiency North's other frameworks, the EN Procure Installers Framework is also designed to deliver tangible, focussed outcomes for its users and the communities they serve; not only in the delivery of employment and skills and site waste and carbon reduction outputs, but also in contributing to the consortium's Frameworks 4 Good Fund, which has successfully targeted backing for local social and economic regeneration in users' tenant communities for the past 3 years.



Acting on behalf of Efficiency North Ltd, as partners in the national Re:allies social housing consortium, North West consortium Procure Plus issued an OJEU notice for the new EN Procure Installers Framework on Wednesday 17 September.

The single stage open procedure tender process will be hosted on the Procure Plus Tender Management System, accessed through the Procure Plus website at <http://tendermanagement.procure-plus.com/register/index/6182f537e8>

All tender documentation will be distributed and returned via this portal. All enquiries and applications should be made via this portal or alternatively please contact Kate Roberts on 0161 874 1831 or [kate.roberts@procure-plus.com](mailto:kate.roberts@procure-plus.com) if you have any queries about the tender management system or any difficulties accessing your account. Please create one account only for your company/organisation on the tender management system.

**The deadline for submitting tenders online is 5pm Monday 10 November 2014.**

"The EN Procure Installers Framework is the next generation of our elemental works framework. It embeds all the values that you would associate with our procurement solutions, including efficiency, flexibility and added social value. However this framework will go further in terms of defining the commercial aspects of subsequent call offs from the framework. It will be backed by an extensive catalogue of schedules of rates to bring further speed and efficiency to the award of contracts via the framework and will have at its core the use of the Schemes Plus trading system, which improves project development and management whilst effectively managing the integration of our own materials framework. I very much hope that contractors of all sizes will embrace the opportunity to win a place on the framework as we have done all that we can to streamline the framework procurement process whilst maintaining the high standards we expect from our framework contractors."

**Lee Parkinson, Chief Executive Officer Efficiency North Ltd**







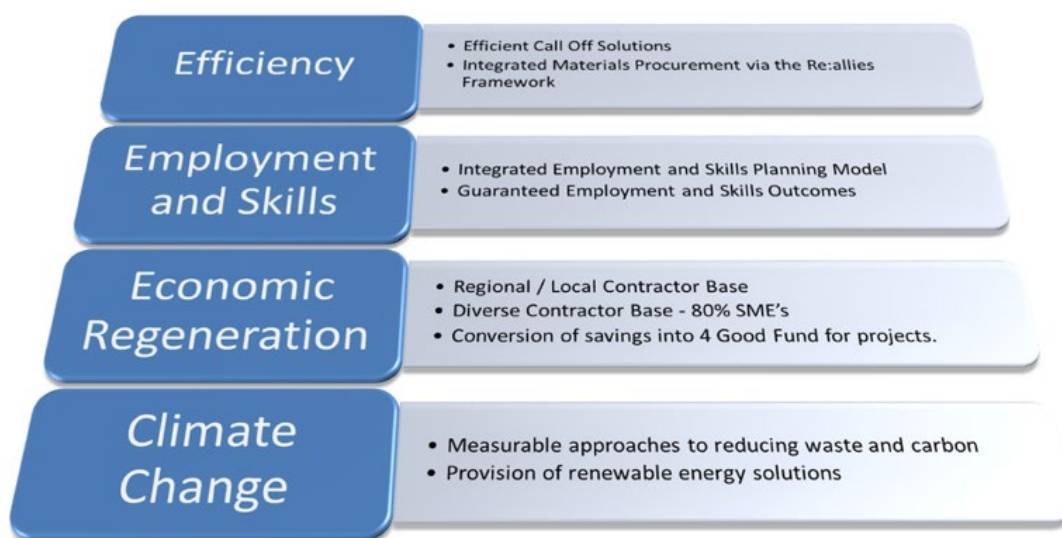
Efficiency North Ltd is steered by a Board of Asset Management Professionals from:

- Berneslai Homes, Barnsley
- Hull City Council
- Sheffield City Council
- St Leger Homes Ltd, Doncaster (Chair)
- Wakefield District Housing

The consortium's current wider membership includes:

- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Belle Isle Tenant Management Organisation
- City of York Council
- Connect Housing
- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Hambleton District Council
- Harrogate Borough Council
- Leeds City Council
- Leeds Federated Housing
- North Lincolnshire Homes
- Pickering and Ferens Homes
- Richmondshire District Council
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Selby District Council
- Selby District Housing Trust
- Shoreline Housing Partnership
- Together Housing Group

**Providing innovative procurement solutions to secure efficiencies and convert savings into real money that can transform real lives in the communities our landlord members serve.**



**BUILDING COMMUNITIES IN YORKSHIRE & HUMBER**