

## Housing

At present there are approximately 450 houses in Dove Holes. The latest housing development, The Meadows, was begun in 1999 and now contains 66 houses. Five of these are owned by the Manchester Methodists Housing Association and are part-owned, part-rented by the occupants. This has both advantages and disadvantages but it does give people a start on the mortgage ladder. Previously, the newest housing estate was on Horseshoe Avenue which was built around 1990. Despite these two fairly recent developments, there is still a demand for low cost, affordable housing and starter homes. One of the reasons for this is that there is a fairly low turnover of housing because people are reluctant to move out of this close-knit community. The population of Dove Holes is also increasing. In 1991 it stood at 1038 but by 1999 it had grown to 1100 people. However, there is a shortage of available sites for housing. There is a complex of maisonettes within the village that are owned by High Peak Borough Council. These were originally built to house the elderly but there is growing concern that they are being increasingly used to house drug users from outside of the village.

There are many things that people like about the housing in Dove Holes. They felt that it is of a good standard, is fairly affordable, there is no overlooking by other houses, the new houses are well designed and the new housing estate is quiet. However, people didn't like Dove Holes being used as an overspill for other towns and felt that there is a lack of affordable houses and a shortage of houses with parking and gardens.

A housing section was included within the questionnaire. The questions and responses are as follows:

**Has anyone from your household ever had to leave the village to find affordable or sheltered housing?**

No: 175                      Yes: 7

**Is there anyone in your household who, in the next few years, might need:**

**Affordable Housing                      46**

**Sheltered Housing 39**

If you are unable to move to accommodation of the type you need, is this because of:

Price	42
Lack of suitable housing to buy	27
Lack of local authority housing	11
Lack of other rented accommodation	13



**The Meadows housing development**

## **Action points**

- Provide more starter homes
- Provide more affordable housing
- Build more houses to keep families in the village
- Provide more rented accommodation
- Complete the Meadows development and have the roads adopted
- Improve the access to the Meadows
- Ask the council not to place any more undesirables in the maisonettes

Dove Holes has a lot of potential – the new housing estate is well thought out – shows that with sensitive development it could become a really nice village