



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2025

We have some great information, opportunities to share and events for you to join - to make sure we can support your communities to achieve good things this year. Have a read and get involved. This time it's all about ACT!

ACT Rural Survey - next steps

The **ACT Rural Issues Survey** closed in January and we are keen to share the results with you. Many of you told us that transport, housing and access to vital services are the biggest challenges of living in rural Cumbria.

We're holding the first of several follow up conversations online on **Thursday 27 Feb at 7.30pm** to [share some of the detail](#) and to think about what key campaign messages or approaches might be.

Please join us to help turn these survey results into useful next steps.



[Book here](#)

Rural Housing Enabler Service



[Book here](#)

ACT and Eden Housing Association have been delivering the **Rural Housing Enabler Service** in Cumbria for one year now. The Service aims to unlock opportunities to develop small numbers of affordable homes, in rural places (under 3000) where a need is identified. We're working with communities, planners and housing associations across the county who know that a handful of affordable homes in the right place is vital for the sustainability of local services.

Join us online on **Monday 10 March at 7.30pm** to hear more about this work.



ACT
with communities
in cumbria

Community Buildings Event

Community Buildings Event THIS WEEKEND

When: Saturday 15 Feb

Where: Online, 10am – 12 noon

This is a follow up to our 'Be Capital Funding Ready' event, including an update on National Lottery funding for halls. Whether you're just starting to plan building improvements for your hall, or ready to apply for funding, join us to find out how to be capital funding ready.

[Book here](#)

Planning for your Future through the Local Plan?

As part of our Collaboration Hub and Community Voice work with the Lake District National Park Partnership, ACT is offering to support communities to engage fully with the revision of the Local Plan.

The Local Plan will set out to a large extent what will be built and where in the National Park for the next two decades, so it's worth getting involved.

Do you want to volunteer your place to be part of a supported conversation about the new local plan? Unusually we will do a lot of the work *for* you - so that we can gather ideas and information from you quickly and feed it in to the Plan consultation process.

Get in touch with [Fran](#) if you're interested. We would love to work with you on this.



Free online Community Emergency Planning workshops



ACT is working with partners to run online sessions for community members and support staff who are looking to build community resilience and develop or update community emergency plans. Workshops are on **Thursday 6 March at 2.00pm** and **Weds 12 March at 6:30pm**. [Read more here](#).

It doesn't matter if you already have a community emergency plan or not, you just need to have an interest!

[Book here 6 March](#)

[Book here 12 March](#)

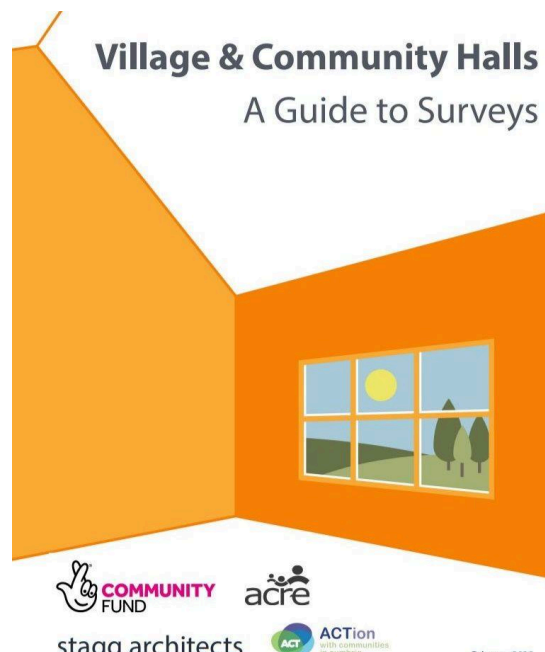
New ACRE Guide to Surveys for Village and Community Halls

This **brand new guide** explains the different types of survey that anyone managing a building like a village hall may need to commission. It also aims to assist surveyors to understand a little about the complexities that may be faced when undertaking such a survey.

ACT recognises that there are very few surveyors available and able to work with hall committees to understand the current condition and future needs of their building.

We hope the guide will make it easier to access tailored professional support so you can keep your community building running sustainably for decades, by knowing what to ask for and what to expect.

Read more and download it [here](#).



And finally...

If you find this information useful, please do share it with others. We'd love you to forward this email to friends and colleagues. You can also follow us on Facebook to keep up with our very latest news and views.

If you are not already an ACT supporter, why not join us? It's free and it means that we can keep in touch with you directly from time to time. You can [unsubscribe](#) at any time from all ACT mailings.

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ACTion with Communities in Cumbria

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