

**Paul Lusk**  
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## **Profile**

Paul Lusk has over 35 years' experience of resident involvement, including 25 years as a consultant. He has developed innovative tenant control of housing through co-operatives, tenant management organisations and award winning projects with special needs groups; supported community engagement in large scale regeneration and neighbourhood management; advised scrutiny inquiries; written government guidance on resident involvement; and carried out negotiation and conflict resolution. He is skilled in preparing constitutions, agreements, policies and business plans, and dealing with incorporation and charitable status. He is able to analyse and develop strategy and to communicate clearly and confidently.

As a trainer he is in regular demand at the National Communities Resource Centre for courses in governance, financial control, and housing policy matters.

As a volunteer, Paul has experience of chairing a parish council and a youth charity and of running transport, play and leisure projects.

## **Consultancy experience**

Paul's consultancy assignments have included:

- Developing neighbourhood management and tenant involvement strategies
- Writing official guidance on tenant empowerment and governance
- Developing housing co-operatives and tenant management organisations including agreements, policies, training and meeting rigorous standards for competence
- Managing large scale community involvement in complex regeneration and providing independent advice to residents impacted by regeneration
- Developing business plans for new community facilities in deprived neighbourhoods
- Advising on the merger of councils of voluntary service including developing governance structures and business plans and registering charities
- Mediation between social landlords and tenant groups
- Big Local Rep – supporting residents in developing a community-led investment strategy

## Training

Paul provides training for the National Communities Resource Centre, Trafford Hall Trainers Network, national and regional federations, councils, housing associations, voluntary committees and resident groups. His training sessions are lively, interactive and focused on outcomes and action plans. Recent training topics include:

- Governance and committee skills
- Regulation and scrutiny
- Localism and changing legislation
- Tackling Anti social behaviour
- Financial control
- Minute taking
- Involving residents
- Tenant empowerment policy and standards
- Equality and fairness

## Testimonials

“Paul Lusk quickly built relationships with all the key partners in shaping services and the local community in our neighbourhood. He gave a well rounded assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of our project. He was able to identify a strategy to achieve our objectives and communicate this clearly and successfully”

(Neighbourhood manager)

“His experience, knowledge and understanding of the subject helped us to agree a robust and deliverable plan for the development of effective neighbourhood working across the Borough which achieved widespread support and commitment from our partners”

(Director, Neighbourhood Services)

“The course was interesting and well structured, so that I could learn and take in the information easily”

“Relaxed friendly course, Paul knew his stuff”

“Trainer obviously knows his business and came across well informed and presented the course in a way everyone could understand”

“The course was very easy going and the trainer was very good indeed”

(Participants on training courses at National Communities Resource Centre)

## **Personal details**

Born: Hitchin, Hertfordshire, UK, 29th October 1947

Nationality: British

Educated:

Dover Grammar School for Boys (1959-1965)

Hertford College, Oxford (1966-1969)

University of Salford (part time research completed 1998, for a thesis analysing the experience of housing co-ops to consider 'Citizenship and Consumption in the development of social rights.')

Family: married to Kay, two children born 1987 and 1990.

## **Qualifications**

MA (Oxon) (Philosophy, Politics and Economics; joint winner, Gibbs Prize in Politics, 1968)

M.Phil (Housing)

Level 4 Certificate in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector

## **Career history**

1966: Community Service Volunteer, Ancoats, Manchester

1969-1971: Professional officer, UN Development Programme, Kampala, Uganda

1971-1974: University and College lecturer, Leeds

1975-1977: English Language Teacher and curriculum adviser, Sudan

1977-1988: Co-operative Development Officer, Co-operative Development Services (Liverpool):

- Developing new-build housing co-operatives
- Leading team providing services to tenants in estate action schemes,
- Establishing community economic development agencies
- Leading work on transfer of new town homes
- Member of senior management team

1988-2009: Founder, director and company secretary of Partners in Change (Housing & Community) Ltd, a consultancy providing services for tenant empowerment, neighbourhood management, regeneration and work with children and families

2009-present: Consultant working as the Paul Lusk Consultancy

## **Publications**

Paul has a long record of publishing with articles for the housing and academic press and national media, including:

- *Local choice, local control – statutory guidance on tenant management* CLG 2008 (main writer for ATIC team)
- *Residents choice – Guidance on tenant management and other options supported through the Tenant Empowerment Programme* CLG 2008 (main writer for ATIC team)
- *Stock Options – Guidance and good practice* (with Ed Isaacs) NFTMOs 2004
- *Tenant Involvement Toolkit* (with Ed Isaacs) Housing Corporation, September 2000
- Who owns, and who controls, social housing? in Cooper and Hawtin (eds) *Housing, Community and Conflict* (Arena, 1997)

## **Voluntary Activity**

Paul's volunteering experience includes

- Chair of a Parish Council
- Chair of a youth charity
- Founder and secretary of national network of tenant advisors
- Election candidate on four occasions; political party constituency officer
- Trustee of a Welfare Rights Centre
- Board member of a Community-based Housing Association

## **Insurance**

Paul Lusk holds public and professional liability insurance to the value of £1m in each case.