

BRITISH COUNCIL OF ORGANISATIONS
OF DISABLED PEOPLE

**Spinal
C/O Injuries
Association**

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Dear Secretary

The housing sub-group of the BCOOP is currently working with the housing group, Shelter, on a national project which aims to provide one hundred integrated units of specially designed or adapted housing for severely disabled people within ordinary housing developments. In doing this, we have special regard for the personal help arrangements which need to be made to enable severely disabled people to be secure and active within the normal community. We believe that it is only by the development of these facilities in conjunction that real alternatives to institutional living can be provided.

At present, we are working with ten separate Housing Associations throughout the country who are co-operating in the project. One of these Associations is operating in your area.

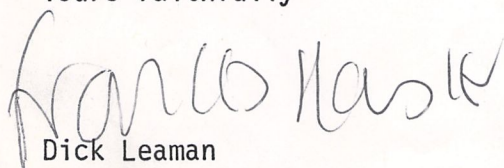
We are therefore writing to you with an urgent request for information relevant to this problem and to our work in your particular locality. As an organisation of and not for disabled people, our first concern is to make contact with any local organisations in which disabled people are themselves active, and also to contact any individual disabled people who might have a special interest in working with us on this project. We believe it is vital that disabled people themselves have a significant voice in the development of such projects if they are effectively to meet real needs in the area. This will obviously require a certain amount of organisation, and we would be most grateful for any help you could give us by way of names and addresses, and by passing on this information to others you think may like to contact us.

Secondly, we would be pleased to receive any papers or reports or views that you have on the housing and personal help needs of disabled people in your area, with particular regard to provisions already available, such as residential institutions, Care Attendant Schemes, wheelchair housing, etc.

Lastly, we would welcome any further involvement in and support for our work from members of your Council with an interest in what we are trying to achieve.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours faithfully



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