

STATEMENT B8 – Amy Smith

Hello my name is Amy Smith and I am a local resident of Lawrence Weston. I became involved with the Lawrence Weston housing project in my search for better housing. Myself and my family currently live in a council flat block in Lawrence Weston. Living in a block of flats and in social housing for us has been a real challenge. When I heard about the chance to become involved in this project, and be involved in the design and types of housing I was excited as I knew the challenges first hand that families are facing I really don't think that flats are a good place for children to live, as there is no garden or outdoor space in most and safety and anti-social behaviour is also a worry. This truly impacts children's confidence and mental well-being. I believe this project will have such a positive impact on Lawrence Weston and it offers the chance to so many to finally escape poorly designed, inadequate, over-crowded or expensive housing. For myself it has given me a sense of community spirit, I have met new people and gained an understanding about housing options. I've even had neighbours and local people approach me to ask questions about the project. As a resident actually having a voice in this from beginning to end has been truly inspiring, as in the end it will be families like mine that get to live there.

Thank you

Amy