

**MEARS**Making People *Smile*

CASE STUDY

Rutland Hall

From office space to bespoke temporary housing

Mears Housing Management worked collaboratively to support Luton Borough Council in converting an empty office into a hostel, now being utilised as temporary accommodation for homeless individuals.

The office was converted into 54 rooms and leased to Luton Borough Council, enabling them to reduce their spending on B&B accommodation and provide temporary accommodation for those requiring assistance. Mears also provide housing management and maintenance services to the building.

In addition to the usual management services provided, Mears Housing Management has also developed a training establishment within the block. A room has been equipped to provide tenants with support on a weekly basis. All tenants who move to this site are enrolled in the programme, which offers mentoring services and life skills training.

Tenants are assisted with looking after their home, paying bills, CV writing, completing job applications and filling out housing benefit forms.

Redeveloping the empty space has not only seen a substantial cost savings to Luton Borough Council but is also providing the tenants and local community with skills and support to enable them with future prospects.

“Due to the success of the scheme, Luton Council has agreed to a second block of more than 100 units.”

Requirement

54 Rooms

Tenant support in:

CV writing
Job applications
Housing benefit forms