



TP Update

what's new in Tenant Participation Spring 2022

<https://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/housing/council-housing/tenant-participation>

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Welcome

Welcome to the latest TP update. Its purpose is to keep our Tenant & Resident Associations, interested tenants, Scrutiny Panel members, Sheltered Forum members, Council staff and Elected Members up-to-date with TP events and developments.



TP update

Tenant groups and staff are currently gearing up activity as more groups start to meet and look to future plans. After a hiccup at the beginning of the year, groups are now meeting in person again, however some are struggling to find community

spaces to meet.

We have a new group which has started in Whitecrook so work is ongoing to train and support office bearers in their new roles and to set up a bank account.

Following the recent tenant satisfaction survey, we also have some new people interested in getting involved and we are excited to hear their views and to strengthen the voice of tenants.

Walkabouts



Housing Operations have made a commitment to go on walkabouts, either with TRAs or with small groups of tenants.

Tullichewan TRA recently did a walkabout in their local area and were able to highlight a number of local issues.

Harry McCormack, Tullichewan TRA chair, says "It was nice to meet with housing staff in person and show them some of the local issues. We had a few local tenants and residents along and felt that it was a productive exercise."

These walkabouts are invaluable for tenants to meet with staff and to show and share local issues.

It is worth remembering that some issues may not be under the control of Housing, i.e. dog fouling, overgrown shrubs etc. These can be reported directly to the appropriate area. These departments can also be invited along.

Walkabouts can be requested via area coordinators. If anyone wants more details you can contact Hanne on 07823 664 247 or hanne.thijs@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Training/support



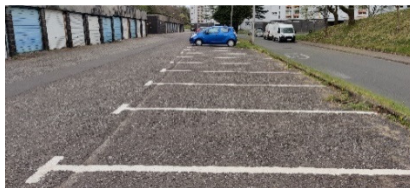
Both Jane and Hanne (pictured) are providing support and training to tenants involved in all our groups. We are available for informal support, talking through issues by phone or we are happy to come out to talk or help you do things.

We also do more formal training around the Scrutiny Panel, office bearer roles and many more. Additionally, we can arrange external training or sign people up to courses provided by other providers, such as TPAS who regularly host training sessions for groups and individuals.

Joint Rent Group

The Joint Rent group are meeting regularly via Zoom. They created an action plan based on an assessment of compliance with Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Guidance and are working to ensure that the Council fully meets the Guidance. The group is made up of tenant volunteers as well as staff from Housing and Finance teams and is a great example of partnership working. They've worked hard to improve transparency around the HRA so tenants can see how their rent money is spent and they are really getting into meaningful financial discussions that all tenants will benefit from.

Tenant Priority Budget



The Tenant Priority Budget is still open for proposals from any tenant or tenant group. In 2022/23 the budget will be reduced to £400,000 following the rent consultation. The other £400,000 is being used to speed up the EWI (wall insulation) programme.

The Budget has recently paid for the lines to be repainted at Littleholm flats (pictured).

We currently have some proposal which have been approved, including improving outside spaces at Willox Park and Kilbowie Court as well as some smaller projects including lighting at the community garden in Drumry, One Bedford-shire Gardens.

If you have any proposals please get in touch with Hanne.

Scrutiny Panel



The Scrutiny Panel are just about to start a new scrutiny exercise. They look at the Annual Return of the Charter (ARC) to see how Housing is performing

relative to other local authorities of a similar size. The Panel independently choose an area which they feel needs improving particularly from a tenant's perspective. After information gathering, the Panel will make recommendations to the Council about how to improve and then monitor progress.

Please contact Jane if you're interested.



Staff and tenants are encouraged to use the Housing News which gets delivered to all tenants—share your news or let us know if there is information you would like to see included

Housing News dates	
Spring edition	Out now
Summer edition	
Deadline for articles	11 May 2022
Expected delivery date	22 June 2022
Autumn edition	
Deadline for articles	13 August 2022
Expected delivery date	28 Sept 2022

