



TP Update

what's new in Tenant Participation Summer 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.



TRA updates

We currently have 12 TRA groups who are active to varying degrees. Some groups are engaging regularly with tenants and officers, doing walkabouts and organizing community

events. Other groups are just starting back

after Covid and assessing who is still involved, how to get more people involved and how to be most effective. As always, there is officer support to all groups who have ideas, questions or just need a listening ear.

All of our groups are looking for more members, so if you know anyone who might be interested, get in touch. We are always happy to discuss the various ways that people can be involved.

We have two new groups which have started in the last 6 months; Whitecrook and Haldane. Both groups had a large turnout for their initial meetings and are now in the process of turning this enthusiasm into action.

Walkabouts

More TRAs are now doing walkabouts. Colleagues in Housing have been great at initiating, organizing and feeding back on these.

Walkabouts can be useful for tenants, elected officials, tenant groups and officers. It allows an open discussion about the opportunities and constraints for improving communities.

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

If anyone wants more details you can contact Hanne.

External training opportunities



In our last TP Update we spoke about the support that Jane and Hanne can provide to anyone who wants to participate. In addition to dedicated council officers, there are also lots of opportunities for training with external providers.

This training can be on any tenant participation related subject which would improve a person or groups experience. For example last year we had a workshop by Jane Cameron from Positively Speaking about building confidence and speaking up at meetings. The training had great feedback as people felt they were equipped to have effective conversations with council officers.

Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) Scotland and Tenants Information Service also run training sessions which we are happy to support tenants to go along to. Staff regularly attend to enhance their skills and knowledge and can attest that they are useful sessions.

If anyone has any thoughts or ideas about training they would like to do, we can look at getting this organized either virtually or in person.

Tenant Priority Budget



New outdoor patio area at Willox Park for garden parties etc.

The Tenant Priority Budget is still open for proposals from any tenant or tenant group.

Officers are working hard to progress existing proposals and many have now been completed. Proposals have to meet certain criteria including that they must be on land owned by the Housing Revenue Account and must be value for money for tenants.

Hanne is always happy to discuss any ideas and whether they would be suitable. We strive to make them happen as quickly as possible.

Scrutiny Panel



The Scrutiny Panel are being the guinea pigs for hybrid meetings. There have been some teething problems but they are good at communicating to us what is working and what isn't. We are also asking

them to try out a new online information sharing platform called Mighty Networks.

Aside from this the Panel are doing two smaller scrutiny exercises. They are looking at 'new tenant visits' which they looked at a few years ago but are revisiting following Covid and the restrictions. The other exercise is looking at the council website and seeing how user friendly it is for people trying to get information.



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 | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Summer edition | |
| Expected delivery date | 22 June |
| Autumn edition | |
| Deadline for articles | 15 August |
| Expected delivery date | 27 September |
| Winter edition | |

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| Deadline for articles | 24 October |
| Expected delivery date | 7 December |