



TP Update

what's new in Tenant Participation Summer 2020

<https://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/housing/council-housing/tenant-participation/>
hold ctrl button and click

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Welcome

Welcome to the T.P. Summer update. It's purpose is to keep our Tenant & Resident Association members, interested tenants, Scrutiny Panel members, Sheltered Forum members, Council staff and our Elected Members up-to-date with TP events and developments.

Since the lockdown, like most Council staff, we have been working from home. It takes a bit of getting used to but you do quickly adapt! Keeping in touch has been really important and we have used our TP Facebook page to keep in touch and help share useful information and support. Our number of followers has increased as people like what we are posting which is good to see.

We have also embraced zoom and have now been having Scrutiny Panel and WDTRO Liaison meetings via zoom. Many TRAs have also been using it to keep connected as sometimes 'seeing' someone, even on a screen, is better than nothing.

The Council is rolling out the use of Microsoft Teams so we think some form of video conferencing will be kept on even once lockdown is eased so we have another option for people not able to get to meetings.

Good old phone contact too has been really useful. We were able to keep in touch with most of the tenants actively involved with Tenant Participation and ensure they knew about all the practical, financial and emotional support available to help people cope with the lockdown.

There were many fantastic community responses to the pandemic, from mask making to food deliveries and it was heart warming to see. Like many, we are hoping that these positives carry on and help communities stay connected.



New member of staff

Delighted to introduce Hanne Thijs to Tenant Participation and she will provide support to our existing tenant groups as well as encourage new tenants to get involved. Her contact details are above and she regularly updates our TP Facebook page.

Delivering neighbourhood improvements—get involved and make a proposal



Painting at Kilbowie Court



James O’Driscoll, one of the keen gardeners at Mill Road outside their new shed.

The Tenant Priority Budget is a great opportunity for tenants to decide where best to spend money and make improvements. £400,000 is available for tenant proposals and over the years the process has been improved to ensure that tenants make the decisions. There is criteria and the aim is for as many tenants to benefit as possible and ensure that it is good value for money. It must be an improvement that the Council isn’t responsible to do through normal repairs and relate to land or property owned by Housing but we can help confirm that.

Any tenant can make a proposal and can be done online or application forms are available from Tenant Participation – the form also gives more information on what the Budget can fund as well as contact details for more advice.

The proposals get costed up and normally public meetings are held for tenants to decide which proposals get the go ahead. Depending on the rate that lockdown is eased, we will arrange how best this can be done but proposals can be submitted just now.

For more information or if you need help with a proposal form please contact Hanne Thijs, 07823 664247 or hanne.thijs@west-dunbarton.gov.uk



Our Tenant Participation Strategy, Involving You, is being reviewed and you can help shape the next one.

It’s really important that we have a Strategy that works for us all and is as effective as possible so tenants, residents, staff and Councillors’ views are needed to get that right.

We have created a online survey to help us establish how TP is working just now and what improvements we need to make so please complete the survey –

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NY8YV6B>

All responses will be anonymised and used to develop a new TP Strategy for the next 3 years.

If you have any questions regarding the Strategy, consultation process or would like a paper copy of the survey, please contact Jane Mack, phone or text 07983 542993 or email jane.mack@west-dunbarton.gov.uk



Staff and tenants encouraged to use Housing News—gets delivered to all tenants

The Council’s communication team can help put articles together so even an idea can become a great story.

Housing News dates	
Autumn edition	
Deadline for articles	17/8/20
Expected delivery date	28/9/20
Winter edition	
Deadline for articles	26/10/20
Expected delivery date	7/12/20

To submit an article or for more info, contact jane.mack@west-dunbarton.gov.uk, 0798 354 2993 or hanne.thijs@west-dunbarton.gov.uk, 07823 664247