



# TP Update

what's new in Tenant Participation Winter 2020

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

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## Welcome

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

## TP update

Since our last update we have been working hard to get all our avenues for tenant participation back up and running. For the most part, along with our tenant representatives, we have managed to get close to where we were before the start of the pandemic. There are some people who, for various reasons, do not want to use technology to join in our groups and we are working to keep them involved in other ways, for instance by using newsletters. When we are allowed to meet again in person, we hope to use a blend of in-person and technology to hold our meetings so that we can have as many people as possible involved.

## Rent setting consultation

We have just launched our rent setting consultation with the introductory meeting held on 24th Nov via Zoom.

There are three options for tenants to choose from:

- OPTION 1  
1.5% increase (average weekly increase of £1.22 or £63.44 a year)
- OPTION 2  
1.9% increase with 1 week rent credit  
(average weekly increase of £1.55 or £80.60 a year)
- OPTION 3  
2.2% increase (average weekly increase of £1.79 or £93.08 a year)

A full rationale for the options is available at [www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/rentsetting](http://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/rentsetting)

Tenants can vote for their preferred option at:

**Online:** at [www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/rentsetting](http://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/rentsetting)

**Post:** complete and return the freepost voting card

**Text:** Option 1, Option 2 or Option 3 to 0798 354 2993

**Email:** [housingnews@west-dunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:housingnews@west-dunbarton.gov.uk)

Tenant's Housing Officers can complete the survey on their behalf.



## Scrutiny Panel



The Scrutiny Panel have recently submitted their fifth report, this one on the process for medical adaptations. Last year, the panel noticed that this was an area which needed improvement and decided to monitor it. There was an improvement from 90 days to 67 days to complete adaptations but the panel felt this was not sufficient so decided to focus on this area. Following in-depth investigations, the panel created a report which has 11 recommendations that the Council has accepted and will now put into practice. The full report can be found on the council website by searching for “Scrutiny Panel”. Details of how to get involved can also be found here.

## Chromebooks

We now have a small pool of Chromebooks with internet connection for involved tenants to use. We hope that these will help to reduce the barriers to people getting involved while the pandemic is on-going. Once we have in-person meetings, the Chromebooks can be used by tenants who may still not be able to travel to meetings, or by those attending meetings in person to take notes and read documents.

## Working together

While some of our Tenant and Residents groups are able to function virtually, some are not, but this doesn't mean that things aren't happening. Dalmuir Community Café is not only up and running working



(Liz, Muriel and Isobel—café volunteers)

successfully within strict Covid guidelines, they are also working with Food for Thought. The volunteers at the café agreed that their space could be used on a Wednesday morning as a base for food parcels to be given out. This not only allows them to support people accessing food parcels but also provides an opportunity to discuss any housing issues which they the TRA may be able to support people with.

## Festive period

We at West Dunbartonshire Tenant Participation wish everyone a lovely festive period and hope that you have the opportunity to do something nice with friends and family in a safe way during these difficult times.



Staff and tenants are encouraged to use Housing News— which 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	
Winter edition	
Expected delivery date	7/12/2020
Spring edition	
Deadline for articles	8/2/2021
Expected delivery date	22/3/2021

