

TP Update what's new in Tenant Participation Spring 2021

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

Jane Mack: 07983 542993

Hanne Thijs: 07823 664247

jane.mack@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

hanne.thijs@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Welcome

Welcome to the TP Spring 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

Since the last TP update at the beginning of December, tenant volunteers had a well deserved few weeks off over the Christmas break after a little virtual get together with a quiz and afternoon tea. They are now back at it, helping WDC navigate through the easing of Covid restrictions and into new ways of working.

Having equipment and internet access for those who need it has helped make sure that everyone who wants to, can get involved. We are currently looking at options to blend virtual and in-person participation options for the future.

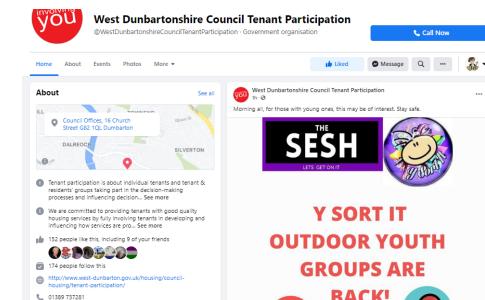
New members

As always we are looking for new members and now is the perfect time for people to get involved.

Our volunteer tenants have found benefits in being involved with tenant participation activities throughout the pandemic as it gives them something to focus on and regular social contact. As everything is online (with a view to future activities being both in-person and online) people have found that they can join in easily and safely.

If you know anyone who you think might benefit from some structure and chatting to other people, please tell them about us.

Facebook



We have a Facebook page which we update regularly with TP information and opportunities to get involved as well as info on what's happening within West Dunbartonshire. You can find us by searching "West Dunbartonshire Tenant Participation".

Joint Rent Group

The Joint Rent group are meeting regularly via Zoom. At the moment their focus is on assessing WDC's compliance with Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Guidance. They will be focusing on, and taking forward, any areas where the council does not fully comply. This will help ensure that there is increased transparency on how the HRA is spent and increase opportunities for tenants to be involved in key financial decisions.

Tenant Priority Budget

As always we are looking for new proposals for this budget. Covid has made it a little harder to get projects done, but we have some in the pipeline for when restrictions lift. These include fencing at Craigielea Road, and repainting of lock-ups at Kilbowie Court. If you have any suggestions please get in touch with Hanne.

Scrutiny Panel



Having submitted their most recent report and recommendations looking at medical adaptations, the Scrutiny Panel are now looking at the council's complaints procedure.

The group are considering the whole process, from a complaint being made to it being upheld or not. This involves looking at everything in

detail and trying to see if there needs to be any policy or procedural changes to make the process as effective and efficient as possible. Learning from complaints is an essential way for organisations to improve so will be interesting to see what recommendations the Panel make.

The work requires a lot of attention to detail but is rewarding to see improvements made so if this is something you or any other tenants might be interested in, please get in touch with Jane or Hanne using the details on the front of this sheet.



Working together

North & South Drumry TRA have recently received a shipping container as storage for the new community garden at Bedford Avenue. They are currently working on putting in some raised beds and paths. They are looking for volunteers to help them make the space inviting and inclusive for the whole community and would welcome any help.



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	
Summer edition	
Expected delivery date	7/5/21
Expected delivery date	21/6/21
Autumn edition	
Deadline for articles	13/8/21
Expected delivery date	28/9/21



Bedford community garden, Drumry