

Hello Everyone.

Welcome to November`s Bulletin,

As we continue our series of staff bulletin programmes of shining a spotlight on specific Sections of Neighbourhood Services; starting with Construction in September and Community Safety and Protection in October, this month`s bulletin will focus on the valuable work carried out by Housing and Communities, whose separate components combine to make a significant contribution to the Council`s overall objective to: provide customer focused services; create thriving neighbourhoods; and improve the quality of life for the residents of Dundee.

With regards to Housing, November`s bulletin articles will focus on the current review of the Housing Allocation Policy, and Tenants` Rent Consultation. Communities related articles highlight the success of its youth work projects and Dundee Alcohol and Drug Partnership funding submission. The bulletin concludes by acknowledging the contributions of individuals who have recently retired from Neighbourhood Services, and Employee Performance and Development Reviews (EPDR) reminder.

As I have said in previous bulletins, your ongoing dedication to deliver services to the people of Dundee during the pandemic never ceases to amaze me. Once again, I thank you all for your continuing hard work.

Finally, I would like to remind you all of the Council`s Employee Wellbeing Support Service and encourage anyone who feels they would benefit from this service to contact them. This can be done by Email: wellbeing.support@dundee.gov.uk or Tel: 07985878596.

More information regarding the Employee Wellbeing Support Service is available at: <https://onedundee.dundee.gov.uk/employee-wellbeing-support-service-covid-19>.



Regards, Elaine

Housing Allocation Policy Review

Social rented housing allocations policies are developed in accordance with Scottish Government legislation. They ensure that applicants` housing needs are accurately assessed, and that social rented houses are allocated to those individuals with the greatest-assessed-housing-need. Allocation policies are reviewed regularly; taking account of changes in legislation and housing needs research.

The current housing allocations policy was last reviewed in 2016. Since this period, there have been significant changes in government related legislation and guidance on how social rented housing is allocated. As a result, Dundee City Council and its

Common Housing Register partners are reviewing the housing allocation policy. To date, they have developed a draft allocation policy document for consultation, and are presently consulting widely with individuals, community groups, residents, tenant organisations, registered social landlords, housing staff, and other key stakeholders. The consultation period finishes on Monday, 20th December, 2021.

If you would like to find out more about the review, consultation process, or provide comments on the draft housing allocation policy, please visit Dundee City Council website through the following weblink: www.dundee.gov.uk/AllocationsPolicy-2021

Tenants Rent Consultation

Setting housing rent levels is one of the most important decisions the Council makes each year, with tenant consultation being central to the decision-making process. Rent levels are set in April each year and are preceded by a comprehensive tenant consultation. This year`s consultation will run between October 29th and December 23rd 2021. Tenants and housing service users are encouraged to take part. Participants are presented with three rent increase options; alongside the level of service offered for each choice. The options

and associated choices were agreed by Neighbourhood Services` Committee in October 2021.

Last year`s consultation saw the highest engagement levels to date with approximately 20% of tenants responding to the consultation. Frontline teams were centre to achieving this level of engagement. We are looking to replicate last year`s achievement in terms of engagement and will shortly carry out Team briefings.

Please keep an eye out for staff emails and participation opportunities throughout the consultation period, and encourage tenants and service users to get involved

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and have a say in how their rent is spent.

For further details on the rent consultation and how to get involved, please contact Mark Cooper, Performance

Liaison Officer - Email: mark.cooper@dundeecity.gov.uk
Tel. 01382 307330.

Community Learning Development: Youth Work Teams Project

During the summer of 2021, Community Learning Development (CLD) Youth Work Teams delivered a variety of activity programmes for targeted, young people and their families. Around 400 young people and their families participated. Activities included: a food insecurity project; Summer Tasty Teas, which ran for seven weeks; twenty days of outdoor learning

activities; and a city-wide barbecue, which gave the opportunity for young people throughout the city to collectively meet and take part in activities and games. Free travel and free access to the cinema, Ryze Trampoline Centre, and Camperdown Wildlife Centre were also part of the CLD youth work summer activities programme.

Dundee Alcohol and Drug Partnership Award – Update

Dundee Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) has awarded £10,000 to each of Dundee's Local Community Planning Partnerships (LCPP). These awards were a result of proposals submitted to ADP by the Community Learning Development service. The funding will be used by LCPPs to promote and develop Dundee as a recovery-friendly-city where people feel valued, respected, supported, and are treated with dignity. Currently, LCPP sub groups of service providers and local people are being formed to share ideas and

develop interventions that will: improve partnership working between local communities and substance services; reduce barriers to accessing support; and increase visibility of recovery and positive responses to substance use.

If you would like to find out more about the fund and associated work, please contact Robin Falconer, Community Health Team Leader - Email: robin.falconer@dundeecity.gov.uk Tel: 01382 435854

EPDR Reminder

We should be progressing our Employee Performance and Development Reviews (EPDR) with the expectation that all staff will have had a review before Christmas. To date very few reviews have been completed. If you are having difficulties completing

an EPDR, please contact Sandy Anderson - Email: sandy.anderson@dundeecity.gov.uk

His Quality and Performance Monitoring Team are here to help. In addition, an EPDR completion guidance note can be found at: <https://dmlink.dundeecity.gov.uk/WebRep/CeRDMSGetNodeContent/OTgetNode.php?node=a4a1a7539466a795a003>

Retirements

Happy Retirement to ...

Neighbourhood Services Managers Jim Fenton and Roger Seaman of Housing who recently retired after eighty years of council service between them. They began their Dundee City Council careers in 1977 and 1985 respectively. And after twenty-five years working with Dundee City Council, the majority of which was in Housing; beginning in 1996, Robert Moodie, Protecting People Team Leader, has also retired.

In addition, with over thirty-six years of council service between them, the following Communities employees, Carole Jenkins, Communities Officer, and Lance Thornton-Granville, Senior Clerical Assistant, have also retired from Neighbourhood Services. They began their Dundee City Council careers in 2002 and 2004 respectively.

We would like to congratulate them all on their retirement; offering our best wishes for the future, as well as thanking them for their individual contribution to providing quality, public services to the people of Dundee over the years.

Feedback: If you want to give feedback on this bulletin, suggest items for inclusion in future editions, or join the Neighbourhood Services Communications Group, please contact: sandy.anderson@dundeecity.gov.uk. If you don't have e-mail access, your supervisor or manager can pass on any comments, suggestions or interest on your behalf.

COVID-19



Employee

Wellbeing Support Service

<https://onedundee.dundeecity.gov.uk/employee-wellbeing-support-service-covid-19>