Cabinet agrees Sheltered Housing Review recommendations

William Tansley Smith House residents had their latest briefing meeting on Friday 23 September, when Sheltered Housing Scheme Manager, Sharon Nunn, and Community Engagement Team Manager, Keith Brown, brought them up to date on the progress being made.

At its meeting on Wednesday 12 October, Havering Council’s Cabinet agreed the Housing Regeneration Programme should go ahead following three months of consultation with residents.

The Cabinet report agreed that in an early phase of the regeneration programme:

- Serena, Solar and Sunrise sheltered housing scheme should be redeveloped as an older persons’ village
- Park Lane sheltered housing scheme should be redeveloped for general needs housing as part of the regeneration of the Maygreen Crescent and Park Lane estate
- Queen Street sheltered housing scheme should be redeveloped for general needs housing as part of the regeneration of the Waterloo estate.

Later in the programme:

- Royal Jubilee Court sheltered housing scheme should be redeveloped as an older persons’ village
- Dell Court sheltered housing scheme should be redeveloped as flats for older people
- Delderfield House sheltered housing scheme should be redeveloped for general needs housing and
- Brunswick Court sheltered housing scheme should be redeveloped as extra care and dementia care sheltered housing.

These proposals and timescales are subject to discussion with the Council’s development partner, following their appointment which is expected to be in late 2017.

Community Hubs

The formation of Community Hubs, coupled with an increase in Scheme Officers so there is one officer per scheme, is due to be part of a report to Cabinet on Wednesday 8 February 2017 with a view to them starting from April 2017, if approval is given to the recommendations.

The proposal is that each Scheme Officer will be responsible for looking after just one sheltered housing scheme as well as supporting elderly, vulnerable people in the community around that scheme.

The Community Hubs will be rolled out during the next financial year and it will, of course, take time to recruit extra Scheme Officers as we need to make sure we get the right people for the job.

It is important to understand that people from outside the scheme coming to the Community Hubs won’t be given free access to the scheme but will be invited to selected events or trips and will be expected to contribute to the cost of those events or trips so there is no extra financial cost on residents in the scheme.

This will be done in discussion with you.

Scooter stores

An audit is taking place of scooter stores at each sheltered housing scheme to see whether there are enough for the number of mobility scooters at each scheme.

If you need a scooter store please let your Scheme Officer know.

Next meeting

1pm to 2pm on Friday 3 February in the Communal Lounge, William Tansley Smith House, Hacton Lane, Hornchurch.

If you can’t come to this meeting, please let us know using www.havering.gov.uk/askhousing and we will be happy to visit and talk to you.
Remember when...

On Thursday 23 February 2017 from 1pm until 3pm you can step back in time thanks to a new partnership between Eastside Community Heritage and Havering Council.

At this event one of the Eastside Community Heritage team will be bringing along music and photographs from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s and asking you to share your memories from those years. This free-to-attend event is open to anyone over the age of 55 years so do invite your friends or relatives from the area to come along and enjoy a cup of tea and the chance to remember when...

Places can be booked at www.havering.gov.uk/RememberWhen or via your Scheme Officer.

Investing in the Future

A special report is going to Cabinet on Wednesday 8 February giving details of all the items identified by sheltered housing scheme residents as being desirable to bring the 12 schemes that will remain open up to a high standard.

This will include the items raised by William Tansley Smith House residents at previous meetings with Interim Director of Housing, Neil Stubbings.

After the Cabinet meeting we will report back on which projects have been approved.

High cost for bus shelter

Residents asked us if a bus shelter could be installed at the bus stop opposite and we have been in touch with Transport for London (TfL) to see if that can be achieved.

TfL have said that installing a bus shelter here would cost around £15,000 and that they don’t have the money in their current budget.

We are looking to see if there is any other way of providing this facility that would be more cost effective.

Who can I contact?

If you have a question about the consultation please email Chelsea.potts@havering.gov.uk

General estate enquiries www.havering.gov.uk/askhousing

Keeping in Touch

You can keep in touch with the latest news and information from Housing Services. Go to www.havering.gov.uk/enews and choose At the Heart online.

There is also information available at www.havering.gov.uk/WilliamTansley and about the sheltered housing regeneration proposals at www.havering.gov.uk/ShelteredHousingDevelopments

You can follow us on Twitter @LBHHousing and also ‘Like’ us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/haveringhousing