



Housing and Technical Resources

Law Neighbourhood News 2019/20

Housing Services continues to work with the community, local groups, elected members and other partners to deliver local housing plans

In the last edition, we provided you with an update on the housing plan for Law which we continue to implement and review each year.

The housing plan sets out the priorities for the year ahead and takes into consideration the supply and demand for housing in the area, the condition and management of open space and the condition of gardens.

You will see from the update below 2019/20 has been a busy year for housing services with good progress made against the actions we agreed with some of these continuing to be a focus for 2020/21.

Progress over the last year included:

- A continued increase in demand for housing in Law.
- Positive levels of tenancy sustainment in area resulting in a more settled community.
- Commencement of the new build development at the former Law Primary School.

A good news story!

Your views matter

We want to continue to build on the housing plan and develop this further year on year for the future sustainment of Law.

Although at present we are not able to come together in the more traditional ways we are still keen to hear your views and be involved in our future housing plans.

Options may include:

- surveys/questionnaires
- online options to engage
- virtual contact with housing staff

The original plan is available should you wish a copy, or if you would like any further information or to discuss the plan or how you can get involved please contact the Clydesdale Housing Office on 0303 123 1012 or by email at housing.lanark@southlanarkshire.gov.uk.

Please let us know what you think and we can agree next steps together. We look forward to hearing from you and working together for the long term benefit of Law community.

Law Housing Plan

Priorities agreed in 2019	April 2019 to March 2020 update
<p>Address lack of demand for housing resulting in long term empty properties and risk to longer term sustainability of area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Services did not require marketing properties available for let during 2019/20 as there is a healthy demand for the area. • We continue to promote the area of Law through our Home Options Service. • 15 lets achieved during 2019/20 this is a decrease from 19 for the previous year. • Of tenancies ending during 2019/20 only one of these was within 12 months of the tenancy starting, it is encouraging that the length of tenancy in area remains high and the community is settled.
<p>Remove blight of concentrated long terms empty properties in area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of March 2020 there were no long term empty properties in area. • No immediate action required as currently no long term empty properties or concentration of empty homes.
<p>Ongoing maintenance and improvement of housing stock</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home+ programme ongoing across council homes to fully meet and maintain Scottish Housing Quality and Energy Efficiency Standards.
<p>Improve standards of individual gardens</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2019/20 we continued our enhanced programme of inspections. • We continued to focus on a number of 'Hot Spot Areas' and progress these with individual residents. • Regular maintenance of council owned empty homes has continued. • During 2019/20, several improvements were noted during our routine journey cycles. 940 garden inspections were carried out and 59 garden letters were issued advising residents their garden required some level of improvement. • A number of referrals to Care of Gardens Scheme have been made in the area during 2019/20 to assist tenants in the upkeep of their gardens. • A key focus for Housing Services is to continue to ensure that standards are consistently met.
<p>Improve condition of open space/refuse disposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four weekly area inspections led by Housing Services. • Issues throughout year with fly tipping and investment priorities have been identified.
<p>Community Safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There continues to be a very low number of anti-social complaints received for the area, only two during 2019/20. • These reports resulted in written warnings being issued.
<p>Create opportunities for community involvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation continued throughout last year via one to one discussions and Clydesdale local housing forum. • We are keen to establish further links and consultation within the area which could form a local surgery, feedback is sought on this proposal.

If you need this information in a different format or language, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs on 0303 123 1015 or equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk.