



Housing and Technical Resources

Carstairs Village 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 Carstairs Village 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 of gardens and promoting community safety.

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 positive increase in demand for housing in the area
- a reduction in anti-social behaviour issues
- overall improvements in maintenance of individual gardens

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 Carstairs Village.

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 Carstairs Village community.

Carstairs Village Housing Plan

Priorities agreed in 2019	April 2019 to March 2020 update
Address lack of demand for housing resulting in long term empty properties and risk to longer term sustainability of area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been no need for Housing Services to market properties available to let during 2019/20 as there has been a healthy demand for housing in the area. • We continue to promote the area through our Home Options Service. • 13 council homes were let during 2019/20 which is the same number of lets made during 2018/19 indicating the area continues to be generally well settled. • Of tenancies ended during 2019/20, 4 were tenancies of less than 1 year. Tenancy end reasons have been reviewed by Housing Services and there is no consistent pattern in the reasons for leaving which is positive for the area. • Tenancy sustainment referrals continue to be made in the area to assist tenants.
Remove blight of concentrated long term empty properties in area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of March 2020 there were no empty properties in the area. • There are currently no long term empty properties, however we continue to monitor the future housing requirements in the area.
Ongoing maintenance and improvement of housing stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home+ programme is now complete and council homes fully meet the Scottish Housing Quality and Energy Efficiency Standards.
Improve standards of individual gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2019/20 we continue our enhanced programme of garden inspections. • Between April 2019 and March 2020, 757 garden inspections were carried out. 18 letters were issued to residents following these inspections. Improvements were achieved throughout the year with regular maintenance of council owned empty properties. • We will continue to focus on this area to ensure standards are consistently being met.
Promote community safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 7 anti-social behaviour complaints received during 2019/20, compared to 8 complaints the previous year. • One anti-social behaviour case referred to the Anti-Social Investigation Team for action. • Housing Services continues to work with all community safety partners to tackle anti-social behaviour issues.
Improve condition of open space/refuse disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small number of 'hot spot' areas remain the focus of our inspections. • Four weekly area inspections led by Housing Services.
Create opportunities for community involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation continued throughout last year via Carstairs Community Council, attendance at open meetings, one to one discussions and Clydesdale local housing forum. • The Community Council continue to be pro-active in supporting the local community.

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