

Issue 3 November 2020

Jewsletter hildren's Christmas Party

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Tenants will know that we had to suspend our community events this year due to the pandemic. This has impacted on us not being able to have our Summer Fun Day, Litter Pick, Dogs Trust Day, Macmillan Coffee Morning, Halloween, Bus Run and a few other planned events.

We are obviously disappointed that we have not been able to organise these events and it looks likely that we will not be able to hold our annual Children's Christmas Party or Pensioners lunch which are days that we all look forward to.

We are looking for tenants to give us some ideas of what you would like us to look at over the next few months to replace the events that have been missed. Some suggestions so far have been food hampers or fuel top up cards. Please let us know what you think by contacting us in the usual way via Facebook, our website or telephoning the office.

Office closure until 2021

In light of the ongoing restrictions imposed by the Government during the coronavirus pandemic, it was agreed at our Management Board meeting on 20 October that the office will remain closed for the remainder of 2020, and the start of 2021. This is for both the safety of our staff and our tenants who we do not wish to expose to any risks. A review of the present circumstances will be taken to the Board meeting towards the end of January and a decision taken then. In the meantime, we continue to offer all our services which are available online or by telephoning us on **0141 944 4902**.

AGM thank you...

A large thank you to all our tenants who attended our virtual Annual General Meeting on 10 September 2020. This was a first online event for the Co-operative and we feel that the meeting was a great success.

Tenant Report Card/AAS delay

Consultation with the Scottish Housing Regulator has extended deadlines for landlords to complete their Annual Assurance Statement from October to November; and the Tenant Report Card from October to December. Our Board have approved these new deadlines and tenants can expect these to be delivered in mid-December.

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f https://www.facebook.com/pg/DrumchapelHousingCooperative/

Bulk uplifts Update

As you will be aware, Glasgow Council Council's bulk uplift service was suspended in March this year due to the pandemic. The council have advised that this decision was taken was to ensure that available resources were targeted at the delivery of statutory services such as the collection of general waste and recycling.

The Council have advised that there remains a suspension of the bulk uplift service across the city and they continuing to target the significant amounts of flytipping which have been evident in the city.

As a result of this suspension in service, the Co-operative have had to remove bulk items from backcourts and common areas within the community to ensure the safety of tenants. This has resulted in significant costs being incurred by the Co-operative.

The council bulk uplift service is expected to become a chargeable service from early 2021 and all residents will have to pay for their items to be uplifted. We are continuing to liaise with Glasgow City Council regarding this however no further details have been provided at this time.

If you are a main door tenant and have bulk items you are unable to dispose of at

Dawsholm Recyling Centre, please contact the office on **0141 944 4902** to confirm what items you require to dispose of in order for us to monitor the situation.

Firework code

Only adults should deal with setting up firework displays, the lighting of fireworks and the safe disposal of fireworks once they have been used (and remember, alcohol and fireworks don't mix!). Children and young people should be supervised, and watch and enjoy fireworks at a safe distance. Follow these top 10 tips for a safer fireworks party:

- **1.** Plan your firework display to make it safe and enjoyable, and check the time you can legally set off fireworks
- 2. Only buy fireworks which carry the CE mark, keep them in a closed box and use them one at a time
- **3.** Read and follow the instructions on each firework using a torch if necessary
- **4.** Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back
- **5.** Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks
- 6. Never return to a firework once it has been lit
- 7. Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them
- 8. Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators
- 9. Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire
- **10.** Make sure that the fire is out and surroundings are made safe before leaving.

Did you know?

- It is against the law to carry fireworks in public if you're under 18.
- Fireworks must not be sold to anyone who is under 18.
- It is an offence to let fireworks off during night hours (11pm to 7am), except on Bonfire Night (midnight), Diwali, New Year's Eve, and Chinese New Year (1am).
- It is an offence under the Explosives Act 1875 to tamper with or modify fireworks.
- If you want to buy, possess and use fireworks (except indoor fireworks and sparklers), in Northern Ireland you must have a valid fireworks licence.

Beat the chill this winter with support from Home Energy Scotland

If you're worried about your bills, or finding it difficult to keep warm at home, Home Energy Scotland can help you access support to improve things.

Home Energy Scotland is an energy advice service funded by the Scottish Government that provides free, impartial advice to help people stay in control of energy use and save money on their bills. The service has no affiliation with energy suppliers and the team never cold call.

How to get in touch

If you are, or someone you know is worried about energy bills, call **0808 808 2282**, or email **adviceteam@sc.homeenergyscotland.org** and a friendly advisor will be in touch. Calls are free and lines are open Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday from 9am to 5pm.



Home Energy Scotland can help in a range of ways including:

- Help with making sure you are getting the best energy deal
- Support for households with prepayment meters who are worried about topping up
- Advisors can check eligibility for discounts from energy suppliers such as the Warm Home Discount Scheme under which you could get £140 off your electricity bill for winter 2020 to 2021.