



Spring 2023

MULTI STORIES

Newsletter for tenants and residents of high rise blocks in Perth and Kinross

Results of multi improvements survey

At the end of last year we invited you to take part in a consultation to tell us what work you would like to see done to your block as part of our Multi-Storey Improvement Programme.

The programme will see major improvement works carried out to the interiors and exteriors of the blocks at Pomarium, Market, Milne & Lickley, and Potterhill. This will significantly enhance the interior communal areas of the blocks, and also transform how they look on the outside.

We plan to carry out the improvement strategy in two parts - one to cover the works for Pomarium and Potterhill blocks, and another for the blocks at Market, Milne and Lickley Courts.

We asked tenants and residents to rank which areas of the blocks you would like to see improved. The results were:

Most important ranked in order

1. Communal landings
2. New external wall insulation
3. Condition of balconies
4. CCTV/security
5. Reliability of lifts

Least Important ranked in order

1. Improved signage
2. Improved landscaping
3. Car parking
4. Rewiring of communal supplies
5. Communal lighting



Update on multi improvements project

This information will be used to prioritise the work we carry out, and also enable us to provide information and advice to owners / landlords on the financial support and assistance that could be available to them.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation.

Installation of Environmental Sensors

In order for the improvement project to be eligible for Scottish Government funding, the environmental conditions within the flats must be monitored prior to the start of work so that the impact of the improvements can be demonstrated. The monitoring is being done by installing environmental sensors which we can monitor remotely.

The sensors record the humidity, carbon dioxide and temperature in a property. We are in the process of fitting these sensors, and we would encourage everyone to agree to have a sensor installed. The equipment can pick up if there is a chance of mould growing your home due to excess condensation and can indicate if you are using your heating as efficiently as you can, helping you to save money on energy bills.

What happens next?

There has been a slight delay with tendering for a contractor to carry out the first stage of the improvement project. Updated tenders were issued in February 2023 and we hope to be able to update tenants and residents soon.





PERTH &
KINROSS
COUNCIL

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Tenant and Resident Forum

**Tenant & Resident
Forum for Perth City**

Thursday 20th April, 11am-1pm



**Come along to Dewar's Centre and
have your say on your housing and
neighbourhood**



Come along to our Tenant and Resident Forum in April to chat with our staff about your housing or neighbourhood. The agenda includes an update about the Multi-Storey Improvement Programme.

If you can't make it along in person, you can join the meeting online. For more information please email Tenantparticipation@pkc.gov.uk or call Diana on 07769285365.



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Keeping drying & communal areas clear

We would once again politely ask tenants and residents to make sure they are not storing any household items or rubbish in communal drying rooms.

Storing items in the drying rooms can make it difficult for people to use the rooms for clothes drying, and may also create a fire risk.

We have put up notices in drying rooms to remind tenants and residents not to store things in these areas.

We carry out weekly checks on the drying rooms, and if we find household items being stored they will be removed.

Please also make sure that you keep your landing and the area outside your front door free of any household items and clutter.

Clutter in communal areas is also a fire risk and may hamper people escaping the building in the event of a fire or evacuation.

The Caretaking Team are keeping an eye on communal areas and will ask you to remove anything they think shouldn't be kept there.

They will remove any property if warnings are ignored.

Thank you for your co-operation.





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Help with the cost of living available

High energy prices and the general cost of living is having an impact on everyone. We understand that increases in household bills will mean some people are struggling to make ends meet. We are here to help you as much as we can.

If you are a Council tenant and you're finding it hard to pay your rent this winter please ask for help. We have money available for tenants who need support. Don't suffer in silence and think the problem will go away - you will be in danger of getting into rent arrears which can be hard to pay back.

If you are finding it difficult to pay your rent or bills you should contact your Locality Housing Team as soon as you can. You may qualify for some money towards your housing costs. We have already paid out over £200,000 to help tenants who were finding it difficult to keep up with rent payments.

Call your Locality Housing Team on **01738 476000 (Option 2)**. You can also text the word **MONEY** to **62277** if you feel like you're struggling to pay your rent and bills. A member of our staff will call you back to see what we can do to help.

A range of other financial support is available for people who might be struggling. At www.pkc.gov.uk/costofliving you will find information about help for private renters, free energy saving advice household visits, free school meals, the school clothing allowance, the Scottish Child Payment Scheme, Council Tax reductions, Housing Benefits and lots of other help that is out there for you.





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Loose cabling in blocks

Loose cabling in the stairwells and on the landings in some blocks continues to be an issue. This cabling is usually linked to the installation of digital and satellite television services.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has told us that any loose or hanging cabling represents a fire risk. Hanging cables are also unsightly for tenants and residents who live in the blocks.

Before you have any services installed in your home that require additional cabling, such as TV services, we would ask that you contact your Locality Housing Team on **01738 476000 (option 2)** to seek permission.

We would also politely ask that you ensure any cabling is properly secured when you are having digital TV services installed.

If you have already had TV services installed and that has left some loose cabling, we would request that this is secured safely to walls or ceilings.

If we need to carry out any necessary fire safety work highlighted to us by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service we may have to recharge tenants/residents for the cost of this work.

Thank you for your co-operation.

