

Tuath Housing Residents' Magazine



Sustainability: Our Community. Our Future. Our Responsibility.



Young people of Liscorrie and residents from Downshire Place paving the way for greener and cleaner communities

In this edition of our newsletter we will be focusing on sustainability. We will provide you with updates on initiatives we are currently working on and very practical solutions on ways you can contribute to making your community and home more sustainable. We have noticed an increase in resident groups focusing on sustainability. We fully encourage groups and individuals to consult Tuath Housing and look at collective ways of making sustainability a part of everyday life. This will benefit you and your community.

We as an organisation will also be investigating ways to improve our sustainability and implement policies to effectively make changes in being a greener organisation. We too will be making changes to make sustainability a part of everyday life. The first action will be to reduce the use of paper by making our magazine electronically available. It will be emailed to our tenants and made available on all social media platforms. We will have limited hard copies available and these will be available from your Housing Service Co-ordinator upon request.

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Tuath Housing Community Day

Tayto Park & Trabolgan, August 2019

Building houses is one thing, building successful, thriving communities is an entirely different matter and it is something the Tuath Housing Team are passionate about.

On August 15th 2019, Tuath Housing held the biggest tenant event on the island of Ireland. With approx. 790 tenants in attendance, the day was truly momentous for us all. We are extremely proud of the progress we have made over the past 12 months with the policies and strategies we introduced to improve tenant engagement. We are now working with 19 resident groups and interest is increasing all the time.

On the 15th August 2019 our resident groups descend on Tayto Park and Trabolgan for a fun packed day with lots of surprises and excitement for all. Planning began months in advance for this event and the resident groups worked tirelessly to organise transport and itineraries for the day. Groups began to arrive at both destinations at 9 am, the excitement and energy was palpable, as young and old got off buses and headed to the main gates.

The underpinning principle was to demonstrate that meaningful tenant engagement is vital, for so many reasons. The success of this event was a testament to the work and tremendous efforts of our residents' groups nationwide. Tenant involvement and real engagement is important for the sustainability of our communities and this experience bodes well for our national tenant forum, which will be launched in October 2019.

Tayto Park seen representation from: Woodstream, Co Roscommon; Leas Na Mara Co Galway; Downshire Place, Co Offaly; Dunville, Co Meath; Castleguard, Co Louth; Thornwood, Dublin; Homestead Court, Dublin; Abbot Court, Dublin and An Riasec, Dublin.

Trabolgan seen representation from: An Radharc, Cork; Knocknacullen, Cork and Tir Cluain, Cork

Tuath Housing would like to say a special thanks to BHP Insurance, AIB Corporate Banking, Leinster Property Services, Sheelin Building Contractors, Typetec, Vodafone, Panda Waste & Office.ie for making this an amazing day for our residents.

The Tuath Housing Services Team getting ready for the community day



Did You Know?

WEEE Recycling



What WEEE Ireland Collect:

You may have seen the signs for WEEE, but are still confused to what they actually collect. Basically, they collect anything in your house with a battery or plug. WEEE includes **computers, desktop printers/scanners, keyboards, vacuum cleaners, cables, kettles, toasters, household fridges, toys with a battery or a plug, washing machines, remote controls, fire alarms etc.** These items are collected free of charge.

It is the responsibility of each collection point to remove data from computers prior to collection. WEEE Ireland only have approval to collect household-like B2C WEEE. They also recycle bulbs, light fittings and batteries free of charge, these items are to be collected in separate containers for safety reasons.

In relation to ordering a collection:

As WEEE Ireland is committed to promoting environmental friendliness and reducing our carbon footprint, they currently have a **minimum requirement** of 250kg/one pallet worth for our free 'household like' WEEE collections but they do not necessarily have to be on a pallet, i.e. the minimum collection quantity is the equivalent of one pallet.

Collection of 'household like' WEEE is free of charge and the general time frame of a collection is 1-10 working days.

The main details required when booking a collection by phone/email as follows: **Collection point name and address, contact name and number for the collection, details of collection e.g. 1 pallet, 19 fridges etc.**

For a safe and efficient collection please ensure that all items are stored in one place (indoors or covered) and in an area that is easily accessible to the driver.

WEEE Fundraising Initiative for the Laura Lynn Foundation!

How does WEEE Ireland recycling batteries work?

They will send you a WEEE Ireland My Battery Box for your personal use. Please supply a full postal address and allow one week for delivery.

What is the cost to my company of recycling batteries for WEEE Ireland?

Its service is provided free to you. And you will also be raising funds for Ireland's children's hospice, Laura Lynn.

When will I get my WEEE Ireland Battery Boxes?

Battery Boxes are available to schools and businesses only. However, we can send you one sample to your home address. Please allow up to one week for delivery.

What size are the boxes?

Box sizes vary and are allocated based on need e.g. smaller boxes for domestic use and larger boxes for commercial etc.

What kind of batteries do you accept?

They accept all kinds of batteries to raise funds for Laura Lynn.

Bring your used batteries to your local Recycling Centre, OR you can return them to any retailer who sells batteries, as they are obliged to take them back.

If you wish to set up a WEEE collection in your development, please contact your H.S.C.O!



Partnership Approach to Improve Recycling for Resident Groups



Tuath Housing are proud to be partnering with Voice on rolling out this important initiative for our resident groups. We are piloting this with Homestead Court (Dublin City Council) and Abbot Court (Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council) with a view of extending nationally. Consultation between resident groups has commenced and the feedback has been encouraging.



VOICE is a member-based Irish environmental charity that empowers individuals and local communities to take positive action to conserve our natural resources. VOICE advocates for the government and the corporate sector to adopt environmentally responsible behaviours, and for the development of strong national policies on waste and water issues. VOICE was founded in 1997 following the closure of Greenpeace Ireland.

In Ireland today we recycle around 69% of our waste, however of that almost 33% of household recycling is contaminated reducing our ability to recycle this material. In apartment blocks with shared waste facilities residents and management companies face unique challenges in managing recycling bins.

Building on the success of the Recycling Ambassador Programme, VOICE with support from REPAK will pilot a scheme to address these challenges and improve waste segregation in apartments and shared living complexes in Ireland. Tuath Housing are extremely lucky to be working on this great project.

The project, lasting 6 months, is a mix of desk study on best practice and a practical pilot scheme working with management companies and residents.

Participating sites will receive:

- ▶ A waste audit, before and after the pilot
- ▶ Signage on waste and recycling
- ▶ Educational interventions with residents – including workshops and focus groups
- ▶ Surveys for residents on waste and waste habits

During the project you will have support and guidance from the Voice expert team who will be trialling the initiative with your scheme. Your dedicated team member will be your contact point for everything on the project and will work with you and the residents to implement the pilot programme.

At the end of the pilot you can expect to have improved management of your waste area and greater diversion from general waste to recycling and composting (where applicable) allowing for potential savings in waste management fees. Your input will help to inform the final project report which will be used to guide waste recommendations to apartment sites across Ireland.

If you would like your apartment block to be involved, or if you are a management company or resident association looking to improve your waste management please contact your Housing Services Co-ordinator for the relevant information.



Recycling



We can all do our part to reduce waste and recycle more. Take a few minutes to rinse out plastic, glass and tin containers. Recycling needs to be clean, dry and loosely packed. Items placed inside one another will not be sorted. Food and liquid can contaminate the recycling bin so ensure items are clean and dry.

Check out www.mywaste.ie for some helpful information.

Glass is 100% recyclable but does not go in the household recycling. Please bring glass to your local bottle/glass bank. Remember to remove metal or plastic lids before disposing of bottles in the bottle bank.

Coffee Cups -Take away coffee cups have a plastic lining so must go in your landfill bin. Up to **200 million** single use coffee cups are thrown away every year in Ireland. So why not treat yourself to a KeepCup, which are lightweight, durable and made to last. You can even design your own and they make a lovely gift for family and friends.

Clothing – clothing and textiles can be disposed of in bring bank containers. All clothing should be clean, dry and in good condition. Many charities also take second-hand clothes including, Enable Ireland, Irish Cancer Society, St. Vincent de Paul, Simon and Oxfam.

Illegal dumping also called fly tipping is the dumping of waste illegally instead of using an authorised collection. Fly tipping destroys the countryside and costs everyone in the long run. New by-laws have been introduced which allow local authorities to demand proof of how householders are disposing of their waste. Many councils are carrying out door to door checks. Households are advised to retain receipts for waste disposal. Householders who can't satisfactorily explain how they dispose of their waste may face €75 fixed-penalty fines with 21 days to pay to avoid prosecution. With repeat offenders hit with fines up to €2,500 if brought before the courts.

All councils have RECYCLING CENTRES where residential customers can dispose of unwanted household or electrical items free of charge including:

- ▶ Batteries including car batteries.
- ▶ Light bulbs.
- ▶ Domestic electrical equipment including fridges, televisions, cookers, vacuum cleaners, kettles, toasters, computers etc.
- ▶ Phones can be disposed in **charity mobile phone** recycling containers.
- ▶ Hard plastics such as toys, containers, garden furniture, car baby seats etc.
- ▶ Waste Metals including bicycles, ironing boards, metal stools, buggies etc.
- ▶ Timber including wooden chairs, doors, window frames, wooden furniture, fencing.

Councils also provide a Bulky Goods Collection Service to dispose of couches, armchairs, mattresses and more. Information and charges can be found on your Local Authority website.

Upcycle instead of Recycle

Upcycling is the process of transforming old and tired looking furniture and discarded materials into something useful. So why not get creative and upcycle that old chair or table instead of throwing it out. Many charity shops sell old and second-hand furniture and there are lots of ideas on line. So, get that paint brush out and start upcycling.



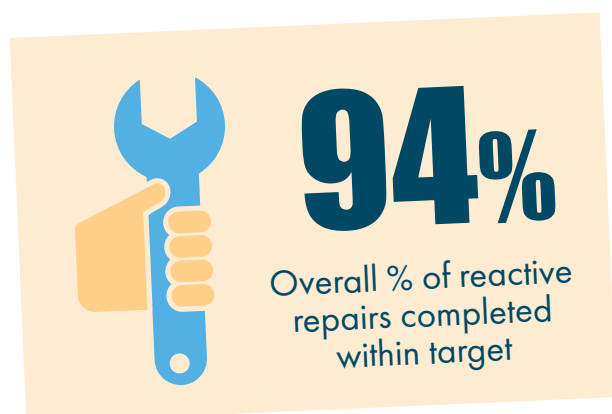
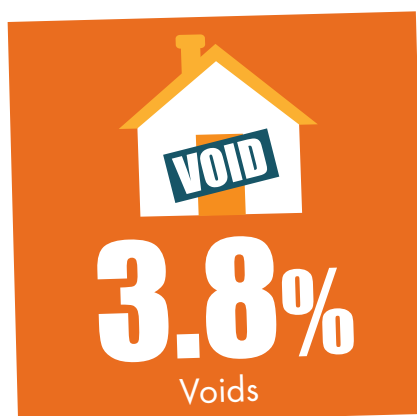
Housing Management Performance



5,000 units

Over 5,000 units in management
& We have a total of **14,030 tenants**

The below KPIs are from Jan 2019 – Aug 2019



Tenant Satisfaction Charts

Woodstream	100%
Castleguard	98%
Woodfield House	98%
An Chaireil	100%
Tuairin Glas	100%
Uaran an Toirin	100%
An Riasc	96%
Drumalee	100%
Spencer House	100%
Ardilea Crescent	100%
Weir View	94%
Palmerstown Way	100%
Knocknacullen	98%
The Meadows	100%
Reilean	100%

Fire Safety Initiative

for deaf/hard of hearing residents



The material in much of today's furniture makes fires burn faster, and nowadays it can take less than 5 minutes for a fire to take over a room. Tuath Housing are aware we have some residents who maybe deaf or be hard of hearing. For this reason, Tuath Housing are proud to announce a system roll out of fire safety devices to assist those to feel safer in their homes.

If a fire starts, the smoke alarm will instantly activate the receiver which will send a signal to all the devices provided. With loud sounds, bright flashing lights and vibrations under your pillow, will help to keep you and your family safe at all times of the day. Knowing that you can get out of harm's way in time provides a peaceful night's sleep for both you and your family.

Easy Setup

Our contractors will be attending properties which have been identified as needing this system. It will be simply installed with minimal interference for the home owner. Once connected it is important to use all the devices that are always associated with the transmitting receiver.

Care Alerts

Residents can choose between flashing lights, powerful sounds or gentle vibrations.

Superior range

This system will keep you connected all around your home.



Please contact your Housing Services Co-ordinator to discuss your suitability for this initiative.

SYSTEM COMPONENTS

This system will keep you connected at times all around your home. Should you have any queries on this system or have a family member you feel this system would benefit, please contact the association through your Housing Services Co-Ordinator.



ON THE COFFEE TABLE
FLASH RECEIVER

The Flash receiver is part of the smart home system that helps you to keep tabs on your home. It alerts you with bright flashes if a fire should occur. It's easy to use, wireless and features coloured lights for easy signal identification.



BY YOUR BED
ALARM CLOCK

The alarm clock receiver awakes you with a sounding alarm, flashing lights and vibrations from the bed shaker when it's time to get up. It will also wake you up in the event of a smoke alarm activation.



ON YOUR WRIST
WRIST RECEIVER

The wrist receiver notifies you with vibrations should the smoke alarm goes off. It's the smallest receiver to date. Wear it around your wrist so you can always be kept safe in your home.

“You’re Investing in People’s Future by Investing in Housing.”

We would love to lay claim to the above heading, but we can’t. The truth is that one of our tenants Stephanie Thompson from Cluain Bhearu coined this articulate and relevant phrase to explain why we do the work we do.

Housing Services Co-ordinator, Anita Davey, suggested we cover a story about Stephanie, who has excelled in academia and strongly advocates that it was because of how Tuath Housing provided her with security of tenure and affordable rent. Stephanie is an example of how people reach their potential once this fundamental need is met.

Stephanie explained, “that it wasn’t the best start to her experience of higher education and she eventually left school at age 14 with no junior cert results.” She then had her son at age 19, however, her son was born with medical difficulties and was diagnosed with Autism when he was 2 years old. It wasn’t enough to contend with, Stephanie was constantly moving to various properties as she was, “receiving rent allowance and for various reasons like landlords selling etc, I had to move 3 or 4 times, my last place was an apartment on the second floor of a block and because of my son’s needs it was not suitable and dangerous for him”.

Things changed dramatically for Stephanie in 2014 when Tuath Housing received her details to be considered for a property in Cluain Bhearu, Athy, Co. Kildare. “I was offered a beautiful, safe, affordable and secure home for both me and my son and we couldn’t be more grateful.” Stephanie admits that this stability allowed her to look at her future and put a plan in place to set goals, and in terms of goals she has certainly scored a hat-trick.

Stephanie made the decision to return to education and credits her experience in the “Moving On” programme for young mothers’ that developed her critical consciousness and capacity to engage in education. At this particular stage, Stephanie was too young to avail of mature student status and wanted to develop her academic skills further and enrolled in a Post Leaving Cert course to get enough points to participate in the course she wanted. The following year she graduated with a Degree in Law, from IT Carlow.



If this wasn’t enough, Stephanie was well truly bit by the academic bug and there was no stopping her. “I completed my Master’s in criminology and criminal justice and was asked by my academic supervisor to undertake a PhD, I’m currently waiting on scholarship approval and I’m quite optimistic.”

Stephanie is “absolutely delighted” with her home and academic achievements and reiterated that because she had safety of tenure and affordable rent, she was able to look after other needs that has improved her and her son’s life.

Stephanie wanted to leave a final message for anyone that may read this and get inspiration: “It’s never too late when you work hard enough, housing and having a home is essential, and if we as a society can get this right, we will be building a bigger and brighter future for Ireland’s young people.

We wish you and your son all the success, it was an honour speaking to you and we thank you for your time.

Well done Stephanie!

Dundalk Goes Digital

Age Action IT Classes and Kids Coderdojos

Tuath staff have been working hard on making partnerships within local communities. Some great partnerships we have formed have been with Age Action and Coderdojo.

Through these partnerships we have successfully provided our older age tenants in Dundalk and Drogheda with opportunities for free IT classes to help them become more confident using their devices and accessing the internet. Tenants can get training on computers, smartphones and internet in a one on one environment. Any tenant over the age of 55 can partake in the training.

This partnership also provides a great volunteering opportunity for any tenant that is comfortable using these technologies. Volunteers receive great opportunities to develop tutoring and interpersonal skills which can be taken forward and used in any future job. They also build great relationships with the other members of our community.

Anyone can be a volunteer provided they have the time to commit to 2 hours per week and basic IT skills.

All tenants who've attended so far have reported having a great time and learning loads!

We've also provided our tenants' children with a wonderful opportunity to learn a valuable new skill in computer programming through Coderdojo's coding classes. Coderdojo's are free, volunteer led coding classes that cover coding basics, web design and robotics. As well as having volunteer tutors, peer-based learning is also encouraged as children are provided group projects to work on. Here kids benefit from social development and work on their collaboration and teamwork skills. Children generally report to enjoy this aspect of the classes as it allows them to work with their friends and make some new ones. All kids from 7 to 17 are eligible to attend.



Images are from coder dojo website

There are also great volunteering opportunities within the Coderdojos. Volunteers receive great opportunities to develop skills in working with kids and facilitating peer-based learning. Volunteers have reported a great sense of pride when students they've supported reach their milestones in the dojos. Anyone with limited IT skills can apply and you don't need to be a coder yourself to run a dojo. Time commitments are also flexible as different dojos operate on different schedules. This is a great option for anyone who wants to do some volunteering but can't commit to certain times every week.

We had our first class in Dundalk IT on September 14th and a great time was had all round.



If anyone would like to learn more to establish either of these initiatives in your area, please contact Philip in Dundalk on...

042 942 3400

Development Update



Pappan Grove

Tuath looks forward to welcoming new residents to the recently acquired Pappan Grove development in Santry, Dublin 9. A mix of one bedroom and two-bedroom apartments, the 35 Part V units were funded using Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF). Pappan Grove is an excellent location, boasting a good roadway system convenient to the M50, M1 and Dublin Airport. Santry has a lot to offer its residents, with a great range of parklands, sports clubs, schools and retail parks.

Commons Road, Navan, Co. Meath

The Commons Road development in Navan played host to Minister Damien English in August of this year as he helped to launch the first phase of the Co. Meath development. Tuath, in partnership with Meath County Council are acquiring a total of 60 new homes which comprise a mix of 2- and 3-bedroom properties. The developer Solidscape Limited, started on site in June 2018 after signing contracts with Tuath and will hand over the first 20 homes at the beginning of October with the remaining 40 to be delivered on a phased basis throughout 2020. These high quality, A rated homes will be allocated to tenants from Meath County Council's housing list.



Haynestown

One of Tuath's biggest developments in the last few years, Haynestown in Dundalk, Co. Louth will reach 112 units by the end of October this year. The ambitious development has been funded by a combination of Capital Advanced Leasing Facility (CALF) from the Department of Housing and competitive loan finance on a fixed term of 25 years from the Housing Finance Agency/European Investment Bank. Haynestown is ideally situated just off the M1 motorway and just 4 km south of Dundalk and is serviced by a great educational, recreation and shopping facilities.

Tanners Field

Tuath continues to provide homes for families across Munster as it launches 11 new units at its site in Tanners Field in Bandon. Funded using Capital Advance Leasing Facility, the units consist of a mix of 3-bedroom end terrace and semi-detached houses. Tanners Field is located in Bandon Co. Cork, a town which lies southwest to Cork City and on the N71 national secondary road, and served by Bus Éireann bus services from Cork City. The nearest airport is Cork Airport.



Development Update (continued)



Browneshill

Tuath are on course to deliver 73 units in Browneshill in Carlow this year, a development which includes a mix of A rated two, three and four bed houses. These homes are being funded using the Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF) and private finance from the HFA. The scheme was officially launched by the Minister for Housing, Eoghan Murphy in late September, where 53 of these homes have been allocated to families on the Carlow County Council waiting list. A further 16 homes were on course to be delivered by the end of October.

Sraith Fhada

Tuath have acquired 14 Part V units in Galway City which are due to come on stream by the end of 2019. The Turn Key acquisition at the Sraith Fhada development in Doughiska, Galway City consists of a block of two-bedroom apartments over four floors. Doughiska is a fast-growing suburb of Galway City, with many housing and business developments taking place in the area since early 2000. A city bus service has been extended to the area, with buses going to and from the City every 10 to 15 minutes. There are many amenities in the area, such as playing pitches, a skatepark and basketball & tennis courts, not to mention schools and green space areas.



Community Champion – Joel Gannon

“Get off the PlayStation and get out and help people.”

As we continue with our community champion series, it's worth remembering that you don't have to be of a certain age to be considered a community champion. You can be a community champion at any level or age. The prime example of this is Joel Gannon. We caught up with Joel and his father to find out what makes him get so involved in his community and become a beacon for other young people.

From the outside looking in, Joel is your typical 11-year-old lad, it's what's inside that stands Joel out from the rest, his willingness to help and volunteer his time to his community is both welcomed by his community and contagious to others. Joel has lived In Homestead Court the past 10 years and he is very proud of his community.



Community Champion – Joel Gannon (continued)

“Get off the PlayStation and get out and help people.”

Joel is the most modest lad I have ever met and simply puts, “wanting to help out and I enjoy doing it” as his driving force to do what he does. He was also quick to give praise to his buddy Callum and both seem to have the perfect recipe for a long friendship. Joel has rolled up his sleeves and got stuck into “planting, making wooden flower boxes, cutting the grass and cleaning up.”

Joel is ahead of his years and I was taken aback when he articulated a common problem so well; “I enjoy playing outside, I don’t really like the PlayStation. When I get bored, I always ask to do something, it’s not healthy looking at a screen all the time.” I asked Joel for a message for any young kids that might pick up this newsletter and he said: “Don’t sit in front of a screen all day, play outside and only have one or two games of the PlayStation.”

Joel speaks very highly of his friends and neighbours and said he loves having all his friends close by and around him. He has nothing but praise for his neighbours and how they are working together, he explained, “there has been a big change in the community, there’s more things

to do now and he loves the summer project.”

Damien our on-site caretaker has nothing but praise for Joel and his pal and explains “from day one a small group of youth from the complex have played a major part in all aspects of the project. Joel 11, a young resident from Homestead court played a major part in the project encouraging all youths in the complex to take part. Joel would come home from school, rain, sleet, sun or snow and would help without anyone asking him. He helped from day one digging up the flowerbeds and discarding the bad soils and weeds. After the initial clean out Joel helped with the placing and planting of plants around the complex giving the place the most optimal colour while also pairing plants that would flourish well together.”

Damien continued to acknowledge, “Joel is hungry to learn in all aspects, always asking questions, always ready to learn and always ready to make the complex better than before. This has a direct knock on affect to all the youths and residents in the area to take part and take ownership of their home. Joel took it

among himself this summer to do his own projects by washing cars and windows in the complex and helping myself cut grass and water plants.”

We have no doubt that Joel has a bright future, his empathy and drive is something we truly admire, and it was an honour to spend some time with Joel. We wish you all the best Joel and thank you. Your community are very proud of you.



TUATH HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Changing Housing for the Better

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E info@tuathhousing.ie

W www.tuathhousing.ie

CORK OFFICE

24 Marlboro St
Cork

T 021 427 3508

F 021 427 3509

DUBLIN OFFICE

33 Leeson Street
Dublin 2

T 01 676 1602

F 01 676 1603

GALWAY OFFICE

4th Floor Heritage Hall
Kirwan's Lane, Galway

T 091 393 280

DUNDALK OFFICE

17 Church Street
Dundalk, Co. Louth

T 042 942 3400