

Prospectus

NEWS FROM
PROSPECT
COMMUNITY
HOUSING

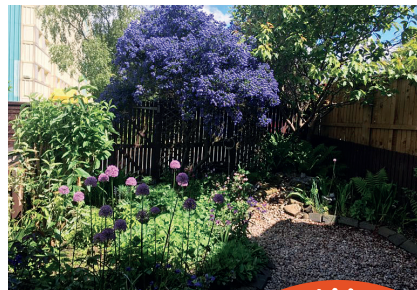
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SHEILA BUNT
GARDEN
AWARD

PROSPECT PLANTERS

This summer we are celebrating all our green fingered tenants who are proud of their creations big or small.



We have welcomed lots of nominations from tenants who have sent in a photo of anything from a plant pot, to a flower box, to a garden, and even some fabulous wellies!

We are delighted that the winner will receive the Sheila Bunt Garden award as well as B&Q vouchers. Sheila was one of Prospect's founding members over 30 years ago, and was a Prospect tenant in Clovenstone until she sadly passed away earlier this year. As well as being an active Prospect Committee member, Sheila loved her beautiful garden, so Sheila's family

and Prospect staff are delighted to offer this award in her name. We were particularly pleased that Sheila's family have helped to design the award.

Here's some of the fabulous entries we've received this year. Check out all the photos on our Facebook and Instagram where we'll be posting the winning entries later this month.

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE THE SHEILA BUNT GARDEN AWARD AS WELL AS B&Q VOUCHERS.

- Tel:** 0131 458 5480
- Email:** enquiries@prospectch.org.uk
- Text:** 07860 047548

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Prospect Community Housing is a registered charity. No. SC029797

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THE FUN RUN IS BACK!

What a great day was had by all at the Wester Hailes Fun run on Sunday 12 June! The lovely weather meant a great turn out of runners, volunteers and even some furry friends.



Over 100 runners took part which was excellent, with Derek Sandison and Kerry Brown being the first male and female runners to complete the course. The Prospect helpers on the day were delighted to spot some Prospect tenants out on the route. Thank you to David Jacobs for his photographs and to Bells Group for the donation of the Winner's Trophy. This event is all about taking part, so thanks to everyone who did!

For more information and times, have a look at the [Digital Sentinel | Fun Run 2022 Times and Placing.](#)

PAYING YOUR RENT, THE EASY WAY:



RECURRING CARD PAYMENT

Are you fed up phoning us every month to make the same debit card payment? Do you feel the pressure of remembering to pay rent every month?

- We can set up your monthly amount to come off your card on the date that suits you
- It happens automatically – no more having to find time to phone us every month
- No charges to set up or if you cancel
- No charges if you don't have money in your account
- No chasing texts/phone calls from Prospect at end of month looking for your payment.



INTERESTED?

When you call the office to make your payment this month tell the staff member, you'd like this to be a recurring card payment, and we will set it up from there. Simple.

PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Please help to keep our areas clean and tidy by picking up after your dog. Now that the office is back open again, do pop in and pick up some free bags.

- If you are a dog owner, it is your responsibility to clean up after your dog, in a shared garden or in public grass areas. Please think of your neighbours, local children and Prospect staff and contractors who are cutting the grass.



ARE YOU ENTITLED TO MORE MONEY?



Fiona McLuckie

? ARE YOU OR A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY DISABLED?

You may be able to claim disability benefits – **Personal Independence Payment (PIP)** for working age adults, **Child Disability Payment** for children or **Attendance Allowance** for pensioners. Contact **Fiona McLuckie** our Welfare Rights Officer on **07908951297** if you think you might be eligible and would like to apply. If you have been refused disability benefit or are not getting the rate you expected, Fiona can help you with an appeal.

? ARE YOU UNABLE TO WORK BECAUSE OF LONG TERM ILLNESS?

You may be eligible to claim new style Employment & Support Allowance or get additional payments with your Universal Credit. Contact Fiona for a benefit check, for help completing Work Capability Forms or for appeals.

? COULD YOU USE SOME EXTRA MONEY TO HELP COVER THE COST OF LIVING?

There is a local charity, The Edinburgh Trust, who provide grants to help with living costs and household or garden items for Edinburgh residents who are in need. Anyone with an income of less than 16K a year can apply. Contact Fiona on the above number for more information.

? ARE YOU CARING FOR SOMEONE WHO IS DISABLED?

If you are over 16, you may be entitled to claim certain benefits for carers, depending on your circumstances. Contact Fiona for more information.

? ARE YOU GETTING COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION?

This is a helpful benefit that many people forget to claim. If you are receiving Housing Benefit or Universal Credit or are on a low income, you may be eligible. Check your bill to see if Council Tax Reduction is included (note: this is not the same as Single Occupancy Discount which may also appear on your bill). If you think you might be eligible contact Fiona on the number above.

? ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO PAY YOUR RENT?

Did you know that you can get an additional payment (a Discretionary Housing Payment) from the Council to cover the cost of any spare rooms or (if you are struggling financially) to give you some more money towards your rent? You may be eligible for this if you receive Housing Benefit or Universal Credit.

For more information or to apply contact **Fiona McLuckie** on **07908951297** or email fiona.mcluckie@prospectch.org.uk

ARE YOU AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC ABUSE?

Domestic abuse is a pattern of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and/or violent behaviour, including sexual violence, by a partner or ex-partner.



Domestic abuse is overwhelmingly experienced by women and perpetrated by men. It doesn't matter how old someone is, what race or ethnicity they are, what class they are, whether or not they are disabled, or whether they have children – anyone can be a victim of abuse.

Often when people think of domestic abuse they think of physical violence, but domestic abuse is very often so much more than that. For many women who live with domestic

abuse there will be no scars, bruises or broken bones, but for some it can take their life. No one kind of abuse is more serious than any other.

Controlling and coercive behaviour was criminalised by the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 and the legislation came into force on 1st April 2019. It is a course of conduct offence, where ongoing harmful and abusive actions in a relationship, which in isolation might not seem as serious, are examined together – this is about behaviour over time.

HELP IS AVAILABLE –

- Visit this website for more information and take a quiz to see if you are affected by domestic abuse - <https://womensaid.scot/information-support/>
- If you want to contact us, we're here to listen; phone us, email us or text us and we can offer you advice and support on your tenancy rights and staying safe in your home.



SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON PROSPECT'S SERVICES

During July and August, we've asked Research Resource to contact all of our tenants to carry out a wide scale satisfaction survey.

50% of our tenants will receive a visit at home and be invited to take part in the survey. The remaining 50% will receive a survey (by email or post) to complete and return either on paper or online.

This is a survey we carry out every 3 years, the last one was in 2019. By taking part in the survey, we can learn what is working well and what areas we can improve on. For example, following your feedback in 2019 we have:

- Fitted more bins and offer free dog waste bags
- Increased the ways in which you can pay your rent
- Promoted support with disability benefits as we found out that 42% of Prospect households include someone with a disability
- Sourced funding to help with fuel payments as many of you told us that it was a struggle to pay bills.

We will also ask questions about you as a person. This will help us to ensure the services we offer meet our tenants' needs and we are not discriminating against any group. We believe that equality is not about treating everyone the same – it is about recognising and celebrating our differences. It is about giving everyone – no matter their gender identity, race, religion, age, disability, or sexual orientation – the chance to get the same opportunities.

These additional questions are voluntary and will be used for statistical and research purposes only. Prospect staff will not know what you have answered as it will be kept anonymous. You don't have to take part in the survey or answer all the questions, do let us know if you'd rather not be contacted.

RENT

CONSULTATION

We'll also be asking your thoughts on our proposal to fix rent increases for the next 3 years at the inflation rate of CPI + 0.5%



There is more information on this in the Rent Consultation leaflet enclosed. We're keen that we gather as many views as possible on this before deciding on setting the rent for April 2023. Thank you to everyone who takes part in this survey.

CATCH UP WITH PROSPECT

Come along to meet with Housing and Property staff to look for any issues and answer your questions.

STREET	DATE	TIME
Walkers	Wednesday 3 August	2.30pm - 3.30pm
Barn Park Crescent	Thursday 4 August	2.30pm - 4pm
Dumbeg Park	Thursday 4 August	2.30pm - 4pm
Morvenside Close	Thursday 4 August	2.30pm - 4pm
Clovenstone Park, Drive and Gardens (starting at No.12 Clovenstone Park)	Wednesday 10 August	11am - 12.30pm
Westburn Village & Morvenside (starting at Prospect's office)	Monday 15 August	10am-11.30am



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

● After a couple of years of meeting on a screen, via Zoom, we are delighted to hold our annual general meeting this year back at Prospect's Office on Tuesday 13 September 2022 at 6pm. All members are welcome in person or to join via Zoom to hear a summary of Prospect's work over the past year followed by the ever-popular raffle and light refreshments. If you are interested in becoming a member of Prospect or a Committee Member, please get in touch.



OUR VISION:

PROVIDING HOMES AND BUILDING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

OUR VALUES:

PIONEERING RELIABILITY LISTENING FAIRNESS PARTNERSHIP