

Summary: The purpose of the report is to provide an update on Dunbritton Housing Association activities. The report covers recent developments within the area.

1. Purpose: Dunbritton Housing Association Update

2. Recommendations

To note the current position with our development programme.

3. Background

Dunbritton Housing Association is committed to a continuing development programme where resources and available development opportunities permit, thus enabling people to live independently in their communities and building properties that are of a standard to be economic to run and affordable to rent, thus contributing to the relief of poverty.

4. Detail

Our East King Street, Helensburgh development of 24 flats is due off site in June 2016. It has been named by the local primary school as Walker Place in honour of one of their long standing lollypop ladies. Delays to this project have been encountered due principally because of a shortage of bricklayers. This is indicative of an construction industry-wide concern about skills shortages. The economic downturn meant a downturn in the construction industry, meaning fewer apprenticeships. With the Scottish Government's push to increase investment in housing there needs to be a recognition that the industry may take some time to catch up and be in a position to respond.

At long last we have agreed the funding package for our development of 26 houses and flats at Succoth, Arrochar. This development has faced many challenges to get us to this stage, including demands from Transport Scotland that we re-configure the road junction on the A83 and from Scottish Power that a power cable is moved. This and more complications have added considerably to costs, however we are now in

a position to confirm that this project will go ahead. The appointed developer is reviewing their programme and progress with the actual housing development will be dependent on early start on the power cable being moved and works starting on the road.

There is no further progress to report on our planned development in partnership with the Helensburgh Golf Club.

5. Conclusions

Development opportunities continue to be sought and we continue to address current challenges to maintain progress on our development programme.

6. SOA Outcomes

SOA 5.1.6: Maintain a new build social housing programme including housing for varying needs to enable people to live more independently

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