

Nottingham Council Housing News

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Welcome to Nottingham City Council Housing Services!

On 1 April this year, Nottingham City Homes ended its management of council housing services, and the work became the role of Nottingham City Council Housing Services.

The transition of the housing service into the council has no impact on the services you receive as an existing tenant, or how you access them.

Services are delivered by the same people in the same way. The officers you are familiar with still manage and maintain your home, support your community, and do everything else that they have always done.

The Council is absolutely committed to continuing to do our best for you – keeping you at the heart of everything we do. And because you told us in a recent survey that you'd like us to continue to keep in touch using this very magazine, we shall continue to do so – although you might have noticed that the name has changed slightly...!



Kevin Lowry
Strategic Director of Housing
Nottingham City Council



Local elections New councillors

Local elections were held across England on Thursday 2 May, with Labour retaining control of Nottingham City Council here in the city.

As a result of a number of local councillors standing down before the election and a change of seat in the Clifton West Ward, a number of new councillors have been elected.

To find out the name and contact details of your local councillor go to www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/councillors and type in your postcode.

You'll also be able to find details about councillor surgeries that are held in your ward. There, you can talk to your local councillor about issues or concerns you have that they may be able to help you with.

Tenant Satisfaction Measures



Our aim is to always provide you with the very best possible housing services.

That's why we welcome the requirement of The Regulator of Social Housing for all social housing landlords to collect and publish a range of tenant satisfaction measures on things like repairs, safety and complaints. The results will help the Regulator to decide which landlords will be inspected first in new style inspections that will start next year.

This will allow you to see how we're performing – where we're doing well and where we can improve.

You can read the measures and find out more on our website: www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/TSM.

Telephone surveys

To help us get this information, we're surveying tenants to understand how satisfied you are with our services, with questions based around the Tenant Satisfaction Measures.

The surveys are done over the phone and replace the STAR Customer Satisfaction survey that we have run for a number of years, that you might have been asked to take part in, in the past.

We've commissioned a market research company called Acuity to do these for us on or our behalf. They're a specialist in the social housing sector and have been working with social landlords for more than 25 years.

The aim is for Acuity to carry out 550 tenant surveys at four points between now and March 2024. The first block of interviews is almost complete and thank you to everybody who was contacted and took part.

The next surveys are scheduled to take place over the following dates:

14 August to 2 September
13 November to 2 December
12 February to 2 March

What you need to know

There's always some understandable concern with surveys like this and that's why we've got a page on our website that has lots of information about the surveys, and what to expect if you are contacted.

Just go to www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/TSM-survey.

If you are called – the number that will appear on your phone is **01273 093 939**. It's a Brighton area code, which is where Acuity is based.

The survey should take no longer than eight minutes to complete and is completely confidential. Calls will be made Monday to Friday, between 9am and 8pm and between 10am to 6pm on Saturdays. If they call you, and it's not a suitable time, they'll gladly rearrange.

If you do receive a call, we'd be really grateful if you take the time to answer their questions, as everything you tell us will help us to understand where we're doing well and the areas where we can improve.

And of course, we'll make this information available on our website and let you know about the improvements we'll be making based on what you've told us. Thank you.

Housing disrepair: **Beware of bogus callers!**

We take all reports of faults in your home seriously and will always aim to sort any issues as quickly as possible.

If you want to report a repair, or chase one up, call us on **0115 915 2222**.

If we visit you at your home to make a repair or to inspect an issue – please let us in. It's a condition of your Tenancy Agreement to allow us access to your home if we need to inspect or carry out any works.

Unfortunately, we know that some of you are being contacted by disrepair claims management companies about making a claim against us for disrepair. Sometimes they even claim to be working on our behalf and may even send surveyors to your home. Please do not engage with these companies – as they could put you at serious financial risk.

Remember:

- We never work with these companies, and they're not connected to us in any way.
- Our repairs team work directly for us.
- We do not cold call.
- All our employees carry ID badges and will be happy to show it to you. If in doubt call us on **0115 915 2222**.
- If we occasionally need to use specialist contractors, they will be able to prove that we have asked them to visit you – call us if in doubt.
- Do not let people into your home that you don't know or give them any personal details.

These firms make huge profits from disrepair claims and even if your claim is successful – they will take a substantial amount of any damages you are awarded – including legal costs.

If they come to the door, always ask for ID. Call the police if you feel scared or threatened and talk to us before you sign any documents. Please don't be misled, as you'll be liable to pay fees if you change your mind. And you can't legally submit a housing disrepair claim, unless you've spoken to us first.

Talk to us

We'd rather this money was helping you, rather than going to legal firms. If you need to report a repair – call us on **0115 915 2222**. For more information visit our website: www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/repairs.



Summer is on its way!

The days are longer and the weather's warmer – which means that any problems with central heating will not be classed as an emergency between now and October.

It doesn't mean we won't fix your issue until October – it just means that we might not be able to come straightaway.

We will, however, make sure you get the next available appointment, and your repair will be done as soon as possible.



Boundary (fencing and gates) repairs and maintenance

Attractive fencing helps make our neighbourhoods look good, creates privacy and provides a clear boundary.

Your tenancy agreement states that maintaining and repairing fencing is your responsibility. We recommend that you look after it, keep it clean, painted or stained with a product that has an element of protection in it.

If you have already reported a minor fencing issue to us, we'll aim to repair it within 90 days. Any new or larger repairs or replacements will be considered as part of a wider programme of improvements, and we will write to you when these are planned for your area.

If you're reporting a new issue and it presents an immediate risk of death or serious injury, we'll come and make it safe straight away. If any follow-on work is needed, we'll refer it to our responsive repairs team or to our wider programme of improvements. Smaller repairs are your responsibility.



If you'd like to install your own boundary, please email feedback@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or write to: Decent Homes, Nottingham City Council Housing Services, Harvey Road, Billborough, Nottingham NG8 3BB

We'd ask that you use fencing that's suitable for your boundary and is in keeping with your neighbourhood. More information is available at www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/fencing.

Nottingham Housing Heroes 2023

It was wonderful to be able to hold our first in-person awards ceremony since the start of the pandemic at Nottingham's Council House in March to recognise all of this year's Nottingham Housing Heroes finalists and to announce the winners.

Many congratulations to everybody who made nominations and entered to give us the chance to shine a light and say thank you to the unsung housing heroes of our estates.

Your 2023 winners are:

Tenant or Leaseholder of the year – Miss Green, Lenton

Good neighbour award – Gillian Slater, Bulwell

Community group of the year (sponsored by Beyond Consulting) – AJ Sports, Lenton Abbey

Inspirational community leader (sponsored by EEM Ltd) – Shanine Fasasi

Outstanding approach to supporting thriving communities – Snapewood Community Centre, Bulwell

Best green initiative (sponsored by CEF) – Shifting your mindset (Dad's garden project), Bilborough

Best older person's initiative (sponsored by T&S Heating) – Crabtree Community Centre, Bulwell

Young tenant of the year (sponsored by Trentside Fixings) – joint winners, Tranai Todd and Amare

Street and Block Champion of the year – Frank McCoid, Lenton

Best health and wellbeing project (sponsored by Focus Consultants) – Shifting your mindset (BAME Dad's programme), Bilborough

Overcoming adversity award – Marie McGlinchey, Sneinton

Special tribute award – Kade's Community Garden, Broxtowe Country Park – awarded in memory of Kade Cannop

Lifetime achievement awards

We were delighted to recognise Stockhill and Ladbrooke Tenants and Residents (SALTAR) from Basford and Angie Stanton from Lenton Abbey with two lifetime achievement awards, in recognition of the work they have done over many years to improve the lives of their communities.

Andre Nugent from Shifting your mindset said: *"For our group to be recognised for two awards in the company of such amazing people and other groups is truly humbling. We started our group to help transform and improve the lives of people across our communities. Fircroft Community Garden in Bilborough is one of our projects, to create a space that the local community can enjoy.*

"But more than that, our group is all about supporting one another and creating a safe and welcoming environment for dads, men and families to come together and to share their thoughts and ideas to help us become better people and fathers to our children. Winning these two awards, shows that we really are making a difference."



To find out more about all of this year's winners, go to www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/2023-winners.

Best Garden Competition

Entries for this year's Best Garden Competition are now open!

Each year, we're wowed by the range of gardens we see entered – and whether you've been gardening for years, or are starting for the first time, or whether you have a garden of your own or an outdoor or indoor space that you use – there's a category for everyone and we'd love to celebrate what you're doing!

The 2023 categories are:

Bee friendly garden

Best use of outdoor space

Best garden transformation

Best communal green space

Best community garden

Best edible garden

Best small garden

Most colourful garden

Best floral display

Inspirational gardener of the year

Best overall garden (selected from the overall winners of all the categories)

How to enter

Send us photographs of your garden, with your name, address, contact details, the category you're entering and a little about your garden and email them to involved@nottinghamcity.gov.uk. Or you can send them to us by direct message on our Facebook page – www.facebook.com/NottmCCHousing (please don't post directly to our page with your details).

You can also send entries by post to:

Best Garden Competition
Tenant and Leaseholder Involvement Team
Nottingham City Council Housing Services
Loxley House
Station Street
Nottingham
NG2 3NG

Unfortunately, we can't return hard copy entries sent to us in the post. You can enter as many times and in as many categories as you'd like, and can send up to 10 photographs per category entry.

Great prizes!

Each category winner will receive a trophy, a certificate and a £50 gift voucher. Entries close **Monday 31 July**.



Coping with the cost of living

The rising cost of living continues to make it really difficult for millions of people across the country...



If you're struggling, it's important to remember that you're not alone and we want to help you.

We have a dedicated section on our website with lots of useful information about the support that we and other organisations can provide, including details of the Government's cost of living payments for this year – just go to www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/cost-of-living.

Talk to us

We're here to help. The most important thing you can do when times are tough is to continue paying your rent, to make sure you keep the roof over your head.

If you're struggling, the sooner we know about it the more we can do to help.

You can call us on **0115 915 4920**, send an email to moneymatters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or text the word DOSH followed by your message to **80800** and we'll call you back for free.

Beware of scams

Sadly, we know that scammers and fraudsters will try to take advantage of people with the cost of living – in particular relating to the Government's cost of living payments. If you are eligible for cost of living payments, you'll be paid automatically, and you DON'T need to apply or do anything.

Watch out for texts or emails inviting you to claim or apply for the payment – they're scams! Some can look really genuine – often mimicking the Government website. The Department for Work and Pensions has said it'll never ask you for personal details or banking information over text or email. Delete any you get!

Just Ask Lion

The Ask Lion service is packed with lots of useful information to support you with the cost of living.

From money advice to budgeting tips. From support with claiming benefits to details of food banks and community support groups, Ask Lion is the place to go. www.asklion.co.uk/money

Top tips to save money on your food shop

As food prices continue to rise, there are ways that you can make your money for food go further:

- 1. Keep track of what you already have**
– Take a good look in your cupboards before shopping – don't add to what you've already got.
- 2. Head for the reduced section first** – If you spot something that's on your list, that's one thing you can tick off and you've saved money on. Then go to the frozen food section and the canned produce aisle – they will always be cheaper than the fresh options.
- 3. Make better use of your freezer** – If things are getting close to their use by date, freeze them. Even milk and cheese can be frozen.
- 4. Make your food last longer** – Taking the plastic wrapper off things like mushrooms when you get them home, will make them last longer. Keeping fruit in the fridge will also extend their life.
- 5. Have a weekly menu** – Making a list of what you're going to eat each day means you'll only need to get what you actually need. Put it on your fridge and you'll also lose the stress of "what's for dinner?"

Celebrations for the Coronation!

The Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty Queen Camilla was an occasion celebrated across the country.

It was great to see so many of our tenants getting involved and celebrating over the long bank holiday weekend of The Coronation, with events and celebrations taking place on our estates all across the city.



Here are just a few of the photos of our tenants enjoying the Coronation weekend!



Residents and children alike had a great time celebrating the Coronation at an event organised by Diversify Education and Communities CIC at Beechdale Community Centre.

Many of our Independent Living tenants had a royally good time celebrating The Coronation – just like these tenants at our Foxton Gardens, Bilborough and Winwood Court, Sherwood Independent Living communities.



Local residents enjoyed a traditional Coronation Fun Fair at St John's Church, Bilborough – including bouncy castle, candy floss, hook-a-duck and brass band performance!

By command of The King...

It was a weekend to remember for the brilliant community volunteer Maria Shakespeare BEM as an invited guest to the ceremony at Westminster Abbey.

Maria was awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) in 2021 in recognition of her voluntary service – in particular, all the amazing work she does to support residents on the Crabtree Farm estate in Bulwell.

Going by Maria's smile – it looks like she had a wonderful, unforgettable day!





A BIG thank you to all our volunteers!



Volunteers' Week is an annual celebration of the contribution millions of people make across the country through volunteering in their communities. It runs from 1 to 7 June each year.

We want to take the opportunity to thank all our involved residents, for all you do to help us improve our neighbourhoods and communities for everyone.

If you've taken the time to complete a short survey, taken part in a course or joined us at an event – thank you.

And if you're not yet involved with us but have a real passion to make a difference – we'd love you to get in touch so we can tell you about the many ways you can.



From Street and Block Champions who are helping to improve where they live by being the eyes and ears of their local communities, to tenants who are part of our groups working with us to improve things like our repairs service, the way we handle complaints and how we deal with issues like damp, mould and condensation.

If you're part of a local community group that's doing great things for your neighbours and neighbourhood – thank you.

Get in touch:

- Email involved@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
- Call us on **0115 746 9010**
- Complete our short volunteer application form on our website – www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/why-get-involved.

Everything you do is helping us to improve.



Let us help you find a job

If you're looking for a job or to increase your skills that will help you to get one – let us help you.

We have a dedicated team that is committed to helping residents looking for work to find work. There's a whole range of ways we can help – including practical support like getting your CV looking great and making a real impression at an interview – through to training and work experience opportunities.

The best way to find out how we can support you is for you to complete a short registration form on our website and we'll be in touch.

Go to www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/employability-register or you can call 0115 746 9100 and ask for a call back from a member of the Employability team.

NW4You

We're really keen to support our younger tenants with finding work. Nottingham Works for You (NW4You) is aimed at 16 to 24 year olds in Nottingham who are facing barriers to find work and who aren't currently in education, employment or training.

The project offers dedicated employment support, including:

- Job search support
- CV writing
- Completing job applications
- Interview preparation
- Apprenticeships and training
- Overcoming personal barriers

For more information, email HousingEmployability@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or call us on 0115 746 9100 and ask for a call back from the Employability team.



Tenant Academy

Our Tenant Academy has been running for more than ten years – providing FREE training to Nottingham council tenants and leaseholders.

Last year 3,396 people benefitted from Tenant Academy training courses, with 7,327 hours of training completed!

We ask those who take part in courses to complete short evaluation forms at the end of their training and we're delighted that 100% of those who told us what they thought said they would recommend the course they've been on to others – with 90% saying their knowledge had increased on the subject from taking part.

Here's just what a few of you who have taken part in Tenant Academy training courses over the past year have said:

"Great group, great teacher, very glad I took part!"

"Thank you very much for setting the course up, it was very enjoyable and enlightening, can't wait for the next one!"

"I had a really good day. I loved it and would definitely recommend it... I found it so interesting and empowering... thank you so much."

What's coming up?

First Aid training

Our friends at Notts Save a Life are delivering the following accredited, first aid sessions at the **Dunkirk Community Centre**, Montpelier Road, Dunkirk NG7 2JW:



Emergency First Aid – on Saturday 3 or Wednesday 7 June.

Paediatric First Aid – two day course on Saturday 3 and 10 June or Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 June.

Full First Aid – three day course from Wednesday 7 to Friday 9 June.

All sessions run from 9am to 3pm. To book online, go to www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/your-skills and click 'Book Online'.

Get involved!

The Tenant Academy offers a wide range of training and skills opportunities to help you grow your potential.

If you'd like to find out what's coming up, the best way is to join our Tenant Involvement e-newsletter mailing list.

Just complete this short registration form to receive the latest news and details of upcoming training courses: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EnewsletterTA.

Or you can email us at involved@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or call us on 0115 746 9100.

BUILDING A BETTER NOTTINGHAM

We're back on site in Top Valley

Works to build 106 new council homes, off Whitcombe Gardens in Top Valley, has now restarted.

Works on the site, which is where the former Eastglade School stood until it was closed in July 2007, were halted last September when the original contractor appointed to build the homes ceased to trade. Since then, we've been working hard to get works restarted.

Our new contractors, Lovell Partnership, will now be completing the works to build the site's **23 one-bed flats**, **63 two-bed houses** and **20 three-bed homes**. The first ones to be completed will be let to local people in housing need, during the summer months.

Lovells are also working on our Beckhampton site down the road from Eastglade, in Bestwood Park, which is seeing **131 council homes** – two and three-bed houses, bungalows and flats – being built on land that was a playing field for the former Padstow School, off Beckhampton Road.



Warmer, more energy efficient homes

Energy improvement works to more homes across the city have been completed this spring – with extra sites starting work over the coming weeks.

Homes in Mapperley, Bakersfield, Radford, and Sneinton are all completed having received works including better roofing, new boilers, external wall insulation and solar panels to make their homes warmer and more energy efficient.

Comments from tenants who have had the improvement works, include:

"It's really improved the property... I notice the difference when I come home – the house feels warmer and keeps the heat. I don't need to have the heating on as much"

"I'm really pleased, they've done a great job – I love the windows!"

"I can't believe the difference it's made. The house is really warm and my energy bills have gone down. I'm so happy living here."

We'll soon be starting similar work on some homes in Clifton, Bakersfield and Bulwell later this spring. We have already written to tenants who will be getting this work to let you know.

These projects have been funded by the Social Housing Decarbonisation Funds, The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Nottingham City Council.

New faces!

We've recently had some new faces start with us in our Building Safety team, to join those you might already know.

If you live in the flats listed below, you can expect to see our Building Safety Officers carrying out routine checks on important safety features including fire doors, lighting and alarm systems. Please do stop them and say hello!

Here's where you'll find them:



Tamer Elhariry and Tracy Orton

- Winchester, Woodthorpe and Winwood Court, Sherwood
- Victoria Centre, City Centre
- Holwood and Springhead Court, Bulwell



Richard Mortimer

- The Woodlands, Radford
- Palmer Court, Lenton



Neil Hilliard

- Bentinck, Manvers and Kingston Court, Sneinton
- Morley, Byron, Haywood and Keswick Court, Sneinton



Dominic Nwogu

- Southchurch Court, Clifton
- Colwick Woods Court, Colwick

Get in touch

If you have any questions or concerns about safety in your block, or you'd like to get in touch with your Building Safety Officer, email building.safety@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or call us on 0115 915 2222.

Sprinkler safety in flats

If your home and building is fitted with equipment to protect you in the event of a fire, like sprinklers, alarms and fire doors, it's important that you do not tamper with these, as they may not work correctly in an emergency.

This includes:

- covering detectors and sprinklers
- removing covers
- using heat equipment near sprinklers – it may cause them to activate
- taking care when moving furniture or anything which could damage the equipment.

If you have heaters, never cover them and keep the area around them clear to allow the heat to circulate.



Don't be tempted to take fire risks as the weather hots up

With warmer days finally on the way, your thoughts might be turning to doing some spring cleaning or making the most of the lighter evenings.

If you're doing a spring clean, why not add doing a quick safety check to the list? It's a good idea to look at electrical items on a regular basis to make sure they're not damaged – if you can see cracks, frayed wires or scorch marks they could be at risk of catching fire and need to be replaced.

When you're preparing your garden for the summer, it might be tempting to burn your waste to get rid of it. Please do not put yourself and others at risk by doing this and dispose of it safely instead.

Going to be enjoying a BBQ this summer or lighting a fire pit to keep you warm in the evening? Take good care if you're using either of these and make sure they're put out fully before leaving them to go back inside – and remember that barbecues should never be used on balconies or indoors!

Keeping you safe

We want you to feel safe where you live...

We know that issues of anti-social behaviour (ASB) can have a real impact on the quality of life of those who experience it. We're committed to tackling it swiftly, firmly and fairly and we'll do all we can to stamp it out.

If you're experiencing ASB, it's really important that you report it to us – so we can sort it.

ReMOTE ASB app

To help with that, we've just launched a new ASB reporting app that you can download from your phone's app store – just search 'ReMOTE Reporting'. The app can be used to report all of your ASB concerns to us.

Through it you can send us audio, photo or video evidence and documents to support your reports. Once a report has been opened, you can update this and also have two-way direct messaging with us about your concern.

It's completely free to download, easy to use and can be accessed from anywhere with an internet or mobile connection via your smartphone or tablet.

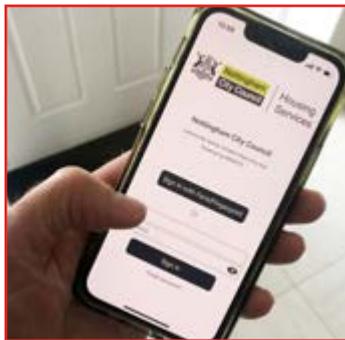
Once downloaded, you need to scan this QR code to start the sign-up process and to link your app to us. You then just follow the step-by-step instructions to get you up and running. It really is the quickest and best way of letting us know about issues of ASB.

Find out more at www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk/ReMOTE.

Don't have a smartphone or tablet?

We know that not everyone has access to these. Don't worry, you can still report ASB to us by any of the ways below and we'll support you:

- Call us on **0115 746 9555**
- Email reportasb@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
- Text REPORTASB followed by your message to **80800** and we'll call you back.



Have we got your most up-to-date details?

If you download the new app, it's really important you include your most up-to-date contact number and email so we can update you on your case.

It's important that we also have these across all our systems, so we can contact you easily if we need to. The best way to make sure we have these is by registering for Housing Online. With a Housing Online account, you can access a range of services, without the need to call us.

It's completely secure, private and it means you can get in touch at your own convenience. You can also update your contact details so you'll know that we'll always have your most up-to-date information.

To register, just go to our website – www.nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk – and click on 'Housing Online'. You'll need an email address and rent account number to register.

Can you help us to improve our ASB service?

We're committed to providing the best possible ASB service to support those who are suffering and having zero tolerance to anybody who commits acts of ASB.

We already have tenants who are helping by providing their thoughts and ideas on ways we can improve – but we're always on the lookout for more.

If you're passionate, like we are, about supporting victims of ASB and preventing it happening on our estates and neighbourhoods, we'd love to hear from you.

Send us an email to reportasb@nottinghamcity.gov.uk and we'll be in touch.



Days of Action are back!

We'll once again be taking part in many of the Days of Action being organised by Nottingham City Council – working with residents and partners to tackle local issues.

As always, we'd love for you to come along and take part in your local day of action – please keep an eye on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/NottmCCHousing to see what's happening and how you can get involved.

The dates for your diaries of upcoming confirmed days of action* are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday 6 June – Mapperley | Friday 23 June – Dales |
| Wednesday 7 June – Leen Valley | Tuesday 27 June – St Ann's |
| Thursday 8 June – Berridge | Wednesday 28 June – Bulwell |
| Tuesday 13 June – Aspley | Thursday 29 June – Wollaton West |
| Wednesday 21 June – Bestwood | |

*dates may be subject to change



Trent Bridge Community Trust



Our friends at Trent Bridge Community Trust is working to support the health and wellbeing of our local communities through a number of projects taking place across the city that you can get involved in:

Forget Me Notts

FREE sporting activities and social interaction sessions for people living with dementia and their carers.

They run sessions at Melbourne Park in Aspley, 10.30am to midday, with upcoming dates as follows:
Wednesdays 7, 14 and 21 June
Wednesdays 5, 12 and 19 July
Wednesdays 2, 9 and 16 August.

Memory Club

Concerned your memory isn't what it used to be? Come along to the memory club in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society at the Indian Community Centre Association, Hucknall Road, NG5 1QZ.

The next session is **Tuesday 6 June, 1pm to 3pm.**

For more information of Forget Me Notts or Memory Club, contact Ian Richardson on **0115 982 3000** or email fmn@trentbridge.co.uk.

Have you heard of Active Travel?

Active travel is all about the everyday journeys that we make to get from place-to-place on foot, by bike or wheeling.



From walking instead of driving to the shops, to cycling into the city centre to meet friends, to scooting on the school-run, active travel has many benefits for you, your neighbourhood and the environment.

Across Nottingham there are lots of organisations who can help you get moving safely and greenly across the city. RideWise offer free introductory cycling lessons for adults and families – go to www.ridewise.org.uk to find out more.

If you like the idea of cycling as a way of getting out and meeting people socially for a group ride, British Cycling arranges group rides in local areas. Also, British Cycling are running monthly, family friendly Pedal Parties which are for cyclists of all abilities. More information at www.letsride.co.uk/rides/nottingham-pedal-party.

Got a bike, but it needs a bit of TLC? Nottingham Bikeworks run bike maintenance courses to help you learn how you can fix your bike yourself and get travelling actively across the city! Find out more at www.nottinghambikeworks.org.uk.

And for all the latest news and updates on active travel and traffic, follow Transport Nottingham on social media and go to www.transportnottingham.com.

Remembering our friend, Janet

Our lovely friend and social housing champion, Janet Storar MBE passed away in March following a short illness.

Janet was the first tenant Chair of the Board of Nottingham City Homes and held the role for seven years. She also served on a number of national social housing forums, including most recently the Housing Ombudsman's Residents' Panel, a national group established in the wake of the Grenfell Tower tragedy to make sure that social housing tenants have a say in housing policy.

Janet always made sure that Nottingham tenants' voices were heard. She campaigned tirelessly for social housing, persuading the Government to invest in Decent Homes in Nottingham and leading campaigns against welfare reform.

She spoke at rallies, joined marches, and wrote to MPs, the House of Lords and even the Prime Minister.

She always said that her greatest achievement was being awarded an MBE in 2013 for services to social housing – a well-deserved recognition of her commitment and passion.



Kathy Sheldon, Assistant Director, Tenancy and Estate Services at Nottingham City Council Housing Services said: *“Janet was an integral part of housing in Nottingham, and of the social housing sector across the UK. We’ll remember her very fondly for everything she did for council housing and council tenants.*”

“They say that good things come in small parcels, and Janet embodied that. She was a small lady with a huge spirit. She will be missed.”