

# De Montfort Newsletter

Autumn 2021



**Welcome** to the De Montfort newsletter, keeping you up to date with estate matters and the work of Homes First. We aim to produce the newsletter quarterly, so if you'd like to contribute to future editions, please email **Billie Webster** (*Senior Caseworker*) at:



Billie Webster

**billie.webster@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk**

## Keeping the estate tidy

*Homes First* are holding a litter pick day on the 28th October between 2pm and 3.30pm and we'd love for you to join us – **everyone is welcome.**



All equipment will be provided, and there'll be rewards for any children accompanied by adults who participate too. We will meet at the Heron Court play Park from 2pm onwards so that groups can be organised, and equipment distributed.

Every year it costs local authorities across the country £660 million a year (£28 per household) to keep our streets clean, and this huge sum does not include spending by other organisations like Highways England.

For more information contact **Billie Webster** – *Senior Caseworker* – Housing.

**Click** is a new local initiative that aims to create a safe and inclusive community for young adults aged 19-26.



Lewes artist, Tom Homewood, has worked with young adults for the last four years. Tom and a team of volunteers will run weekly events all over town to offer local young adults the opportunity to connect with each other, maintain good mental health, develop new skills – and have fast track access to practical and counselling support. *Click* events will include volleyball, rambling, game nights, cinema trips, cooking challenges, escape rooms, art and music workshops, business workshops and community-serving activities. All events will take place on Sundays, either in the afternoon or evening, and anyone in the 19-26 age-group is welcome. All *Click* events are free except performance events when tickets will be subsidised. You can find out more on **www.weareclick.org** and **#weareclickorg** on Instagram.

**Click**

**JustAsk** are the cleaning contractor for the De Montfort estate, and they are scheduled to visit and clean the blocks twice a week. If there are any issues or comments about cleaning you need to report, please contact Mark Davis (*Contract Manager*) or Mark Heathfield (*Supervisor*) by emailing: **lewes.Housing@justaskservices.co.uk**

**Just Ask**

Better places, better lives

## Other News...

### Football in the community

We are hoping to work with Lewes Town Football Club and Sussex Police on an ongoing football initiative which will engage young people from the community to take part in a De Montfort focused event.

### CCTV

Neighbourhood First have obtained a licence to refit a CCTV camera at the Ousedale car park to overlook the bin stores and help identify those fly-tipping.



### Bin Store works to Ousedale waste area

Work has started to remove the raised areas of the bin stores to maximise the use of all bins and make room for additional ones.

### Signage on the Estate

We have improved block signage on some parts of the estate, and this will continue right across the area.

### Guttering Repairs

These are scheduled to be completed by March 2022. This type of work takes time due to the amount of scaffolding needed and its availability.

### Antisocial Behaviour on the Estate

We are working closely with Sussex Police and would ask all residents to report any issues to us, because evidence is needed for us to take any action. Diary sheets are available by contacting Customer Services.

## Trouble with energy costs?

Living in a cold home can harm your health and make health conditions like heart problems and asthma in children worse.



The East Sussex Warm Home Check service is available all year round and offers free telephone advice and money saving tips for anyone struggling to afford to keep warm at home.



You can apply for a *Warm Home Check service* by texting **WARM** to **80011**, or by calling **0800 464 7307**.

There's also a website with lots of helpful information – [warmeastsussex.org.uk](http://warmeastsussex.org.uk)

## Webchat

With our webchat service, you can avoid the call queues in our busiest periods!



Webchat is a fast and easy way to contact the Councils for assistance and to get the information you need.

Operators are available between 8.30am and 5pm, Monday – Friday and will be able to assist with quick-queries or signpost you to webpages with the information you need.

Between these times, you can access our webchat service from any page on the website; just click on the 'Chat live with us' tab at the bottom right of the page to start a chat with an Advisor. You will need an email address, but you don't need to sign up for an account.

You can even request a copy of the chat transcript be sent to you, so that you can easily refer to any instructions or information you are given. Just head over to [www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk](http://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk) to give it a go.



Chat live with us

