

Tall Building Resident Engagement Strategy

Appendix -
Tamar House

Plymouth
Community Homes



Tall Building Resident Engagement Strategy for Tamar House

Address: Tamar House 2/180, James Street, PL1 4HJ

Resident Engagement Consultation

In January 2024, Plymouth Community Homes (PCH) completed a full resident engagement exercise focused on building and resident safety at Tamar House. This consultation was completed to ensure PCH understands how residents feel and are safe, including understanding their communication needs, to ensure that PCH tailors communications and activities and that the correct platforms are available for residents to have a voice.

We had 19 responses from 90 properties (overall 21% response rate) in the building.

The results found that:

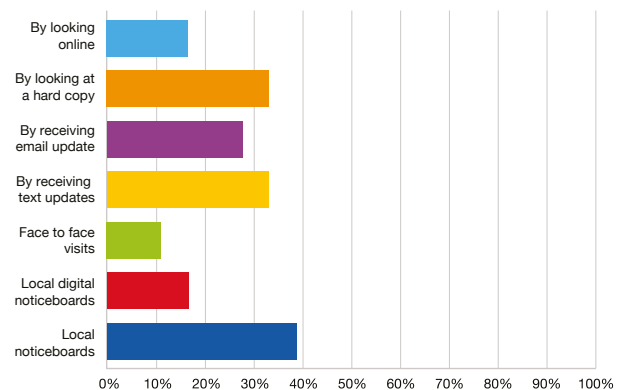
- 89% of respondents were satisfied that their home is safe.
- 74% of respondents know how to inform PCH of changes to assistance needs.
- 89% of respondents had good awareness of what to do in an emergency of fire inside their flat. 81% had a good understanding of the stay-put policy. There was less awareness of how to test their smoke alarm and electrical safety within their flat. There was low awareness of how the sprinkler systems work.
- 95% of respondents were satisfied that their block is safe.
- There was a high awareness of safety with regard to waste disposal, communal area safety, and fire doors. There was less awareness of reporting issues, parking and finding the fire risk assessment.
- Respondents wanted to know more about fire safety in their flats and communal areas, safer communal areas, waste disposal, and the building safety report.
- Additional feedback has been shared with relevant departments.

From your responses to the consultation, we now know that:

About a third (over 30%) of residents in the building prefer communication by local notice boards, followed by over 30% requiring information by hard copy and text messages.

Other residents preferred alternative information and communication routes through local digital notice boards, online visiting, and face-to-face engagements.

Based on your preferred routes, we will ensure communications are tailored to your individual and collective needs, as highlighted in the table below.



We also hold comprehensive records about our residents in this building, and these are regularly reviewed and updated by the tall building team to ensure we are using the most up to date information about our residents.

As of June 2024, we know we have 19 residents who have told us that they have physical, mental, mobility, vision, or other impairments.

The age groups in the building are as follows: 5.36% (under 16), 8.18% (16 to 24), 17.27% (25 to 34), 19.09% (35 to 44), 14.55% (45 to 54), 16.36% (55 to 64), 12.73% (65 to 74), and 6.36% (75 to 84).

1% speak Farsi, 1% speak Polish, 1% speak Portuguese and English combined, and 97% speak English. We are committed to providing communication methods suitable to their needs

Assessments

PCH ensures that any vulnerabilities are identified and necessary assessments are completed.

The Secure Information Box (SIB) has been updated. It is located in the communal foyer area, making it easily accessible for Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service in case assistance is needed for emergency evacuations.

When residents told us they had difficulty safely evacuating their homes, we promptly completed a Person-Centred

Fire Risk Assessment (PCFRA). A PCFRA aimed to assess residents at a higher risk from fire in their homes, whether due to their behaviours or their ability to respond and escape from a fire, such as residents with impairments.

The PCFRA focused on three key areas.

1. An increased fire risk
2. Ability to react to a fire or alarm
3. Ability to respond and escape a fire

Resident Engagement Panel

PCH has established a resident engagement panel for residents at Tamar House. The panel comprises residents and client representatives/advocates and provides residents with a platform to discuss safety within their homes and buildings.

This panel meets at least four times a year. It discusses critical aspects, such as strategy, policy, safety reporting, repairs/projects (building investment), guidance, and other relevant matters residents raise.

If you are interested in taking part in the panel, please contact our Tall Buildings Liaison Officer, Jo Rees, and Interim Fire and Building Safety Manager, Marc Gray.

Some residents have suggested sharing information through local digital notice boards. We are considering investing in TV screens for our tall buildings.

PCH has a communal room at Tamar House, which is accessible to both residents and PCH colleagues. In addition to home visits, we will use this shared community space for resident meetings to discuss safety within your home and the building based on your preference for face-to-face communication.

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2024 - 26



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