

Independent Living Team Quarterly Newsletter



July - September 2025 edition

Living Independently, Thriving Together

Welcome all to our fourth newsletter of the service.

We are now just over a year into the Independent Living Service and what a year it has been. I made it very clear at the very beginning that I wanted our tenants voices to be heard and wow, how loud you have all been. The ideas you have all brought to the table have now all been implemented and put into action, and yes there has been some bumps along the way but I am delighted that now

more than ever we are working much more closely with you to ensure that you can all remain independent for longer. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the Focus Groups still do continue, so please do join in and continue to help us in helping you. You can find details of the next Focus Groups further into the newsletter. Many thanks and Best Wishes, Tracy Carter Portfolio Holder - Housing and Communities.

Next Focus Groups

Tuesday 2nd September 2025	11am - 12.30pm	St Matthews Drive, Sutton Bridge. PE12 9RJ
Tuesday 9th September 2025	11.30am - 1pm	Nene Court, Spalding. PE11 2JT
Tuesday 16th September 2025	9am - 10.30am	Spring Gardens, Long Sutton. PE12 9HU

Message from our Tenant Engagement & Influence Lead:

"Come along and get involved with us at our Tenant Forum Launch - you'll find out about lots of ways to give us your views on a wide range of our services, from reviewing literature at home to attending meetings or sending in your thoughts" We will be launching at the following locations

WHEN AND WHERE

- ▶ Tuesday 8th July / 10am to 12pm at Royal British Legion, Long Sutton
- ▶ Wednesday 9th July / 6pm to 7.30pm at St Norberts Hall, Spalding
- ▶ Thursday 10th July / 1pm to 3pm at The Holbeach Hub, Holbeach
- ▶ Tuesday 15th July / 10.30am to 12.30pm at Tonic Health, Spalding
- ▶ Wednesday 16th July / 6.15pm to 7.30pm - Online Information Session

Tunstall update:

There's still a few upgrades outstanding for the emergency alarm systems and/or smoke alarm upgrades. If you are one of the ones not yet completed, we will be in touch with you directly.

TV Aerial update:

The finances have now been signed off, we will soon be in touch with those requiring works to be completed directly.

Service News

206 ambulances saved with Age UK responses

This year £2,230 funding sourced for person circumstances

£21,504 saved to tenants with benefits & bill savings

Stock Condition Surveys

"We run an ongoing programme to survey all of our homes to try to ensure they are safe and well maintained and also look at if or when the major items such as kitchens and bathrooms may need replacing. Many of you may have already had a company called MLCS3 visit you in the last 9 months to carry out this survey, thank you for allowing them into your home. For those that have not yet had their survey please keep an eye out from the letter that MLCS3 will send and try your best to allow them in or contact them to rearrange to a suitable day and time."

Good News - Nicely seated:



The tenants of St Mary's Gardens expressed their wish to have a bench reinstated after its removal many years ago. We're delighted to share that the Independent Living Team has made this happen, allowing residents to once again enjoy a comfortable outdoor spot to sit and relax.

Hanging Proud:



Huge thanks to tenant Kev for volunteering to create some fabulous hanging baskets at our St Matthews Drive Community Centre

Tims workshop:

Residents at Glen Haven asked for some planters for their Communal Garden, what better way to get them than Tim and the tenants making them together- if you think this would be good at your Community Centres then please get in touch.



If the Shoe Fits!



John and Paul, a pair of shoes, together with Gail an Independent Living Officer

We wanted to share a delightful story about two neighbours who've found a brilliant way to save their pennies. John and Paul live next door to each other and, as fate would have it, they're both amputees - with opposite legs. You can

probably guess what's coming! Not only do they each need just one shoe, but they also happen to share the same shoe size. So, rather than letting half a pair go to waste, they've come up with a perfect solution: they split the cost and each take the shoe they need. Not only does this save them money, but it ensures that no shoe goes unused - a true example of resourcefulness and friendship in action.

Reminder!

Do you have an issue with damp and mould? If so please get in touch straight away.

Call 01775 761161. Phone lines are open Monday to Friday from 9am - 5pm.
Email: dcm@sholland.gov.uk providing as much information as possible (such as your name, address, contact telephone number and size and location of the damp or mould).



EVENTS



Your Fish & Chips Calendar

Nene Court - 2nd Tuesday of each month 12noon - 1pm

Glen Haven - 3rd Tuesday of each month 12noon - 1pm

Trinity Court - 1st Wednesday of each month 12noon - 1pm

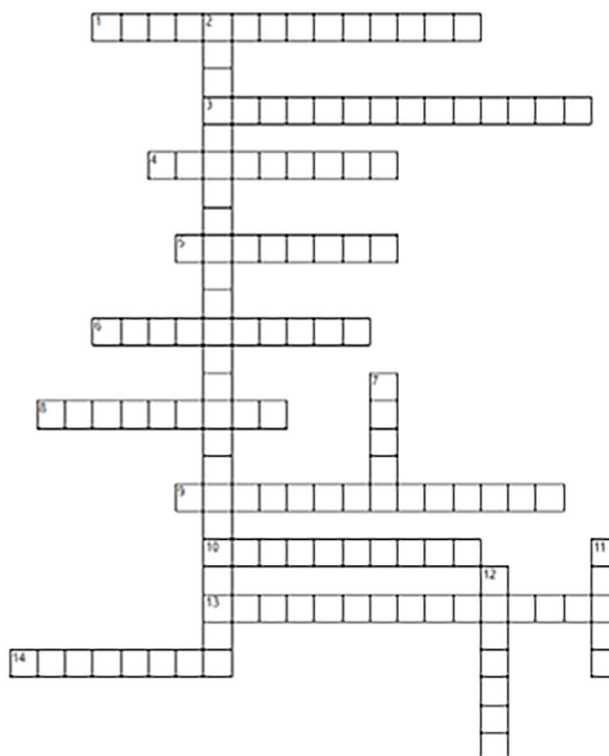
St Matthews Drive - 3rd Friday of each month 12noon - 1pm

First Aid Awareness - St John's Ambulance

Lyndis Walk, Holbeach - 10th July 1.30pm - 3pm

Independent Living Crossword

Answer the hints to find the words relevant to your Independent Living Service



Across

- 1 Who you would call for a leaking tap
- 3 The Council need access to your home every quarter to test this
- 4 You can book this if family wish to visit and stay
- 5 The Council want your _____ regarding the service you receive
- 6 You are very happy with your service and may wish to make a _____

- 8 If you are not happy with something you may wish to make a _____
- 9 The person who assists with your rent and tenancy enquiries
- 10 A group you can join to voice your ideas or concerns with your service
- 13 A place to go and meet other tenants and attend activities
- 14 Living Independently, Thriving _____

Down

- 2 The person who assists with health or wellbeing needs
- 7 You may head to the Community Centre to play this
- 11 They attend in an emergency if your contact cannot
- 12 You press this if you're in need of emergency help

How To Get Involved

If you would like to get involved with the newsletter, we welcome your contributions. Whether you have a story to share, a suggestion or a special event to promote, we would love to hear from you.

Email: independentlivingteam@sholland.gov.uk

Tel: 01775 764888