

# Housing associations showcase great homes and thriving communities in West Belfast

**At a special housing event in West Belfast local elected representatives heard how housing associations are building great social and affordable homes and transforming communities.**



Elected representatives today met with several local housing associations to hear more about social and affordable housing in their area. Helm Housing and Clanmil Housing Association, two of the main providers of social and affordable housing in West Belfast showcased their role in providing supported housing at Hemsworth Court and 165 family homes and apartments at Caffrey Hill.

The event, aimed at encouraging greater engagement between housing associations and elected representatives, included tenants, care and support staff, housing managers, the Chief Executives of both organisations, the Belfast Trust and NIFHA.

Elected representatives from the Northern Ireland Assembly and Belfast City Council, heard directly from tenants and service users about the positive impacts of living in Hemsworth Court and Caffrey Hill and from Helm and Clanmil about

supporting these existing projects and plans for continued investment in West Belfast. Planned new development of over 200 new social and affordable homes, a community centre and business units at the Visteon site and regeneration activity in Lower Falls/Divis by Fold Housing Association were also featured during a tour of housing association projects in West Belfast.

Commenting on the positive engagement Cameron Watt, NIFHA's Chief Executive said:

"Housing associations in West Belfast are making a significant contribution to the local community and local economy, building new homes, regenerating existing properties and neighbourhoods, tackling anti-social behaviour and investing in much-needed services, care and support. With social purpose, financial resources and the right expertise and experience, associations have the potential to deliver transformative change but need political and community support to make this a reality. The key to genuine and lasting benefits for West Belfast is meaningful engagement and partnership approaches. Working together we can provide great homes and create thriving communities.

Ends

Note to Editors

- NIFHA is the voice of housing associations in Northern Ireland. We represent the 26 registered housing associations, promoting their work and lobbying for an operating environment that supports them to deliver great homes and thriving communities.
- Housing associations manage 38,000 homes comprising general needs, specialist and supported accommodation and support 7,000 shared ownership households.

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