



Sheffield
HOUSING COMPANY

NEWS

June 2023



Two local organisations, which support communities, have received a cash injection, enabling them to help more people across the city.

Funding of £20,000 from Sheffield Housing Company (SHC) is supporting projects with Southey Owlerton Area Regeneration (SOAR) and Manor Castle Development Trust (MCDT).

SOAR used the £10,000 to launch a Warm and Welcoming Spaces initiative last winter, which helped combat some of the challenges caused by the cost of living crisis.

Feedback from those who attended, included: “Thank you so much for my hot water bottle” and “It’s so nice to feel like someone is looking out for you.”

Megan Ohri, Partnership Manager at SOAR, said: “We are acutely aware of the pressures people are facing due to the cost of living crisis. We wanted our safe, warm spaces to provide comfort and a place where people can meet, to combat loneliness and isolation.

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MCDT is using the £10,000 grant to support a range of activities. This included sponsorship of seasonal events, funding towards a toddler play group, support of the local S2 Creative Arts Festival, rolling out a 'Dark Nights, Positive Activities' programme for children and young people, upgrading local play equipment and improving communications aimed at crime reduction and anti-social behaviour.

Debbie Mathews, Chief Executive Officer of MCDT, added: "Bringing the local community together and providing the services, activities and support that matters most to our neighbourhood is at the heart of what we do."

To date, SHC has pledged over £50,000 to public art and community initiatives. £20,000 has been spent supporting local schools and backing open pathways to work for students.

Link to the full article here: https://www.sheffieldhousingcompany.co.uk/news_article/?id=2647&news=investment_of-20-000_strengthens_sheffield-s_community_groups

*Front page picture caption: (From left to right) Project Director with SHC, Steve Birch; Social Value Coordinator with Keepmoat, Siobhan Cooper; Partnership Manager at SOAR, Megan Ohri; Community Partnerships Manager at Great Places, Steven Gayle and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of MCDT, Debbie Mathews.

A word from Steve

"There has been lots of activity since the last edition of SHC News in October. As highlighted in this newsletter, we have been working hard to support local organisations that play a significant role in supporting Sheffield communities.

We're calling on budding Sheffield photographers to take part in our #charitycalendar 2024 competition - in aid of Sheffield Mind. This idea started during lockdown and has since been showcasing the very best of our city, whilst raising awareness of an excellent cause (page 6).



Steve Birch

SHC has experienced a very busy and challenging period, with work progressing on five live sites in Parsons Cross, Manor and Norfolk Park. 2023/24 is set to be even busier, forecasting the creation of almost 200 new homes and the submission of three new planning applications to extend and reinforce our delivery in the city over the next few years.

We are also currently exploring measures which will improve the environmental credentials of our homes and ecological value of our sites. This is in line with new Building Regulation and Planning requirements, coming into effect this year and looking ahead to the new 'Future Homes Standard' to be implemented in 2025.

The recruitment of Mark Littlewood to our team (page 4) will certainly support our delivery programme.”

Steve

Steve Birch, Project Director with Sheffield Housing Company.



<https://www.sheffieldhousingcompany.co.uk/>

Email: customerservices@sheffieldhousingcompany.co.uk

Tel: 0114 2730119

Twitter: @Sheff_HousingCo

Facebook: @SheffieldHousingCompany

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sheffield-housing-company-limited>



Homes
England



SHC strengthens team

As our partnership progresses with plans to deliver 350 new homes in Sheffield over the next five years, we have appointed a second Development Manager.

With work already underway on seven sites that will deliver 600 homes, Mark Littlewood, 58 from Bakewell, joins our team, to initially oversee six new developments planned for the city - which will create a further 350 homes.

Mark brings a wealth of experience to the role having spent most of his career working on the construction side of the housing association sector, delivering large housing programmes.

For the previous five years, Mark has worked as a consultant, advising registered providers and housing associations on construction and technical aspects of housing development delivery.

Outside of work, Mark enjoys spending time with his family, watching football and keeping fit.

He said: “My family lived and grew up in Sheffield and it is a city I know well and have a natural affinity for. When the opportunity arose, I was very interested to work for SHC, helping to build on the excellent track record of delivery of high quality, affordable housing they have achieved to date.

“I am looking forward to the challenges ahead of housing delivery in the current tough economic climate but I am confident that SHC will rise to those challenges and continue to deliver much needed housing in Sheffield.”

A link to the full article can be found here:

https://www.sheffieldhousingcompany.co.uk/news_article/?id=2653&news=regeneration_partnership_strengthens_team



Park SuDS scheme move forward

There will be a few changes to parts of Manor Fields Park this year.

In partnership with Green Estate, we will be carrying out works to improve and create new habitats for plants and animals, continuing to make the park a special place for its many visitors.

Part of the lower end of the park will become an area for a new Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS). This will create a 'wetland' environment, supporting different species and enhancing the biodiversity of park. The area will be landscaped to include walking routes for visitors to explore and enjoy.



The project will also support the creation of much needed affordable homes in the Manor Park Crescent and the Corker Bottoms / Harborough Rise area of our neighbourhood. This will reduce the risk of flooding down river, during heavy storms.

We will be working with experienced partners to ensure the project is delivered in an efficient and sensitive way. We will also be engaging with park users and the public over the next few months – as the works get underway.

For more information, contact: customerservices@sheffieldhousingcompany.co.uk

Picture perfect Sheffield

With support from our online community, we are ensuring Sheffield is firmly in focus!

Since the end of last year, we have been inviting SHC Twitter followers to submit their Sheffield snaps each week, for #photofriday. Every month a winning picture has been chosen to feature in a 2024 charity calendar in aid of Sheffield Mind.

During the pandemic, we asked people to share their images of the city, which sparked conversation, encouraged people outdoors and helped with mental wellbeing. This was the ‘flash’ of inspiration behind the project.



To date, a number of images have already been chosen by public vote on Twitter.

Lindsay Doyle-Price, from Sheffield Mind, said: “We are thrilled that SHC has decided to run this fun competition from a simple Tweet during lockdown which has become an activity so many look forward to on a Friday. #photofriday and the subsequent 2024 charity calendar is helping raise awareness of mental health and the challenges many people face.”

All entry details can be found here: https://twitter.com/Sheff_HousingCo/status/1615952347196260353?s=20