

## **Blakeborough House FAQs Autumn 2023**

### **What is happening to Blakeborough House?**

We recognise that the building needs significant investment to bring it up to modern standards for sheltered accommodation. The building needs fire safety works to be completed in the short term. These works will start in November and we will inform you of the specific dates nearer the time so you are aware of any works close to your apartment. We have also been reviewing options for the future of the building as sheltered accommodation. No decision has been made yet.

Before any decision is made, we want to know what you would like the council to do with Blakeborough House. We want to listen to your concerns about the building and discuss the best solution. We want to know for example, whether the current building is satisfactory or not to any personal needs you may have.

### **Understanding my housing need?**

In order to plan for any future works to the site we need to get a better understanding of the circumstances and needs of the people living there. For example, to help us to understand your housing needs, circumstances and preferences. Please could you indicate on the comment sheet?

### **What if I am a tenant and I need to move?**

Nobody is required to move at this point and will not be, until we have considered your feedback and any decisions are made.

Until we know your views, we can't answer in detail. Any potential proposals will be discussed with you and the other residents. If any proposals require you to move, then there are legal processes we need to follow. These will be explained to you and you will be given the time so you can make an informed decision.

Should any decision mean you need to move, we will work with you to identify a suitable home and support you to move into your new home, using removal contractors paid for by the council. You will also be entitled to statutory homelessness payment.

### **Will any proposals consider parking and traffic and other issues?**

The current scheme was built in the 1960s and not designed for modern day car and vehicle usage. These and other issues, will need to be considered as part of any options.

### **Consultation and Engagement?**

We will be holding a consultation event in your residents lounge on 19<sup>th</sup> October between 10 am and 12 noon so that you can come along and discuss again any thoughts or concerns you may have. We will also be creating a council and tenant engagement webpage on <https://participate.wigan.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/blakeborough-house>, which will further allow us to see what your opinions are so that you can engage with us if you can't attend future face to face consultation.

### **What are the likely timescales?**

Initial consultation with residents will be held for 6 weeks from 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and a report with the outcome and recommendations for further actions is likely by December. We will inform you of the next steps once this report has been presented and decisions made.

**Key contacts:**

The Sheltered accommodation Team will be in charge of the consultation and any correspondences will be through that team. Please direct any questions or queries to the following:

Telephone: 01942 486292 or

Email: [communitylivingschemes@Wigan.gov.uk](mailto:communitylivingschemes@Wigan.gov.uk)