



**West  
Granton**

Housing Co-op

Our tenants are paramount  
in everything we do

WINTER 2022

# newsletter



## Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

The Committee of Management and all the staff from WGHC would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The WGHC Office will close at 4.00pm on Thursday 22nd December 2022 and will re-open at 9.00am on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

During these times, the office and phone lines will be closed and there will be no staff on site.

## #RentFirst

Christmas is a time for fun and family, but don't let that take priority over paying your rent.

If you are struggling, don't bury your head in the sand – contact us – there are many ways we can help.

**0131 551 5035**

[mail@westgrantonhc.co.uk](mailto:mail@westgrantonhc.co.uk)



### EMERGENCY REPAIRS over the Festive Period

Whilst the office is closed, please telephone any emergency repairs through to:  
Aquarius Call Centre on **0131 608 1447**

### Gas Central Heating Emergencies

Lothian Gas: **0131 440 4666**

Scottish Water (Emergency): **0800 0778 778**

**Please remember to report ONLY  
emergency repairs over the holiday period.**

# Please try to recycle...

## Christmas generates mess! Cardboard/Paper/Bags/Cards etc.

The Household waste recycling centres are located here:

- **Seafield HWRC**, 76 Seafield Road, EH6 7LW
- **Craigmillar HWRC**, Old Dalkeith Road, EH16 4TB
- **Sighthill HWRC**, Bankhead Avenue, EH11 4EA

All the above sites are for the use of Edinburgh residents only and are normally open 7 days a week for pre-booked slots. To book, visit:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/bookrecycling>

If you have large items at home that you no longer need and are still in good condition, you can have them collected by an organisation listed on Scotland's Re-use Tool.

Items will be collected by a local organisation and re-used. For more information, please visit: <https://wasteless.zerowastescotland.org.uk/articles/reuse-tool>



The City of Edinburgh Council also provide a bulky uplift service. There is a charge for each individual item uplifted (approximately £5). Up to 5 items will be collected per uplift.

## Putting your items out for an uplift...

All items must be on the pavement in front of your property by 7am on the day of collection. Waste must not be presented at any other time. Only items specified at the time of booking will be collected.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/bins-recycling/request-collection-bulky-waste-items>

# The Pantry – Good Food, Amazing Prices!

## Have you heard about the Pantry or are you a member already?

**T**he Pantry provides local residents with affordable and nutritious food. Members pay £3.50 per week and they can choose a selection of food up to the value of £15-20 every week. We have two Pantry's in our area.

For more information phone, check out the websites, or pop in if you can.

- **Freshstart Pantry** at 22-24 Ferry Road  
Opening hours: Mon 10am – 3pm,  
Tues 10am – 4pm, Fri 9am – 1.30pm  
[www.freshstartweb.org.uk](http://www.freshstartweb.org.uk)
- **Pennywell Pantry** at 43 Pennywell Road  
Opening hours: Wed-Fri 10am – 2pm,  
Sat 10am – 1pm  
Phone **0131 332 8773** or email Cara at:  
[pennywellpantry@communityrenewal.org.uk](mailto:pennywellpantry@communityrenewal.org.uk)



# Warm Home Discount

## The Warm Home Discount Scheme is open!

The Government runs a grant programme in partnership with many of the energy companies called the Warm Home Discount Scheme. The Scheme can provide £150 towards the cost of your electricity if you apply within the timescale and all of the following apply:

- Your electricity supplier is part of the scheme.
- You are the account holder at your property (if you have not registered with your energy supplier at your home you will not be able to make an application).
- You will automatically qualify if you are in receipt of pension credit (but you still need to be registered for the scheme with your current energy supplier).
- If you/your partner are in receipt of benefits or tax credits you may be entitled to the Warm Home Discount.



You can usually make an application online, over the phone or by post, you may need to provide evidence of your income or entitlement to benefits.

The money isn't paid directly to you, if you have a prepayment meter it will be credited to your meter otherwise it will be paid directly to your electricity account and will appear on your bill once awarded. Receiving the Warm Home Discount does not affect the Winter Fuel Payment or Cold Weather Payments.

If you would like further information about the scheme or require assistance to apply, please contact our office, **0131 551 5035** or [mail@westgrantonhc.co.uk](mailto:mail@westgrantonhc.co.uk)

## Brr! It's getting colder... Keeping YOU and YOUR home warm

### Follow these tips on keeping warm and well whilst outside in the cold:

- find out if you can get the flu jab for free on the NHS
- wear several layers of clothes rather than one chunky layer
- use a hot water bottle
- have at least one hot meal a day
- try not to sit still for more than an hour or so indoors – get up and stretch your legs
- stay active – even moderate exercise can help keep you warm
- wrap a scarf loosely around your mouth when outdoors – add a hat and wear shoes with a good grip, too.

### Follow these tips to keep you and your family warm and well at home:

- if you're not very mobile, are 65 or over, or have a health condition, such as heart or lung disease, heat your home to at least 18°C
- keep your bedroom at 18°C all night if you can
- during the day you may prefer your living room to be slightly warmer than 18°C
- draw curtains at dusk and keep doors/windows closed to block out draughts





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West Granton Housing Co-op | 26 Granton Mill Crescent | Edinburgh EH4 4UT

t 0131 551 5035

e mail@westgrantonhc.co.uk

w www.westgrantonhousing.coop

**Out-of-office emergencies: 0800 917 8039**

# Committee Matters

Remember, you can find a copy of the minutes from the Committee Meetings on our website  
[www.westgrantonhousing.coop/about-wghc/work-of-the-committee/](http://www.westgrantonhousing.coop/about-wghc/work-of-the-committee/)

## Your Committee of Management

**Colin Fraser (Chairperson)**

**George Thomson (Vice Chair)**

**Wendy Riordan (2nd Vice Chair)**

**George Nicol**

**Liz Robertson**

**Amanda Aitchison**

**Stacey Powch-Scott**

**Jim Hemphill**

**Morag Orr**

**Lynn Jameson**

## Your Committee Needs You!

Under the rules of WGHC, The Committee of Management can comprise of up to 15 members. We currently have 8 full-time members and 2 casual vacancy members. This means there are some spaces on the Committee.

- Do you have a skill, knowledge or some background that might help the Committee?
- Can you spare 3 hours\* a month to read Committee papers and attend the monthly meeting?
- Would you like to be able to have “a say” in the way in which WGHC is run?

Until the next AGM and the need to formally join and commit to giving some time, why not apply to join the Committee on a ‘casual vacancy’ basis – a sort of “try before you buy” approach. You might be able to make some real changes! Application to the Committee is open to ALL tenant members over the age of 18 and subject to agreeing to abide by a code of conduct and Committee approval.

If you are interested in any way, please contact the office on **0131 551 5035** and ask to speak with **Larke Adger**, the CEO or **David Mills**, the COO.

(\*additional hours will be required to attend training/workshops, etc)

## Special Thanks...

In November, Mr Joe Moir stepped down from the Committee after 31 years service to WGHC.

The Chair, Committee and all the staff from WGHC would like to thank Joe for his incredible dedication and commitment to WGHC over the past 31 years.

