



Friendly neighbours. Community spirit, we help each other out when needed

I have lived in the area from when I was 7 years old, I'm now 80. I have **seen the area improve over** the years. I've worked within the community all my working days and enjoyed it

chat 2 aspire

Chat 2 Aspire gives an opportunity to directly communicate and consult with our valued customers about the things that really matter to them.

In December 2021, we successfully engaged with 25% of customers living in our homes through online surveys and a paper alternative for our non-digitally enabled customers. A total of 2,261 responses were received, which is over 600 more than our first Chat 2 Aspire campaign that we ran in 2019.

aspire

### Aspire owns & manages approximately 1100 homes across the **Cross Heath** & **Knutton** area, which forms part of the **Central** neighbourhood management area.

Aspire's Central Locality covers the communities of Cross Heath, Knutton, Silverdale, Hempstalls and Lower Milehouse.

In response to Chat 2 Aspire we have written a Neighbourhood Plan for where you live that will focus on people, property, places and partnerships. This plan has been influenced by what you told us, so it's unique to your area and directly reflects what you've highlighted needs working on.

This Plan is focused on the Knutton and Cross Heath area's where a significant amount of work is being undertaken to revitalise these area's and provide a village focal point.

**KNUTTON & CROSS HEATH** 

# in your Neighbourhood



## Your Neighbourhood Plan

### We see common challenges across all our communities, but each one has different priorities & unique challenges, which we identify for tackling.

Our neighbourhood plan for **Knutton** & **Cross Heath** sets out how Aspire Housing will work collaboratively with residents, and our partners to respond and overcome the challenges in your area.

### Local Strengths

- Strong community spirit and a distinct sense of place
- Well served by local amenities and good transport links
- Partners work together to support local residents, businesses and their communities through a range initiatives
- Significant investment in the Knutton area to create a vibrant place to live and work

### Local Challenges

- Higher levels of deprivation reducing life expectancy
- Significant numbers of young adults not in education, employment or training
- High levels of poverty and financial debt
- High levels of anti-social behaviour and crime in this area



#### We focus on the 4 main areas where we can make a difference:



### **Partnerships**

### Here's what we'll do...

## For People



### Provide training to local people to enhance the employment opportunities.

To connect local residents with work and skills opportunities, as well as evolving and growing Aspire's wrap around support services and providing an external partnership framework for our customers, **ensuring joined-up working throughout**.

### Our Promise...

- We will support people into better employment opportunities, increasing skill levels and connecting young people to opportunities
- We will provide Tenancy Support to help you manage your tenancy
- We will provide advice on money, debt management & unclaimed benefits
- We will work with partners to deliver
- We will help to tackle fuel poverty with energy advice



### Here's what we'll do... **For Places**

### Keep neighbourhoods safe and well maintained.

We will **improve the quality of life in our communities** and measure what it feels like to live there. We will take a leading role as a **community connector** in our work with local partnerships, voluntary organisations, and our health partners to ensure we effectively serve those most disadvantaged in our communities.

### Our Promise...

- Be a visible presence within your community
- Trial a new Locality Hub to coordinate joined up local services
- We will work with local partners to develop proposals for the regeneration of the centre of Knutton
- We will establish a regular community litter pick
- Increase the number of our community events



It's really important to keep our green spaces tidy and litter pick more often

### Here's what we'll do...

## **For Property**

### Invest in new homes and regenerate or maintain existing homes.

We will ensure that **customers have support to look after their home** and invest through planned **improvements**, whilst embracing green initiatives to ensure we maintain **high standards**.

We plan to build more new homes of affordable rent, sale and shared ownership through our group structure and our sales brand Cerris Homes by 2024.

### Our Promise...

- We will provide safe and affordable housing you can call 'home'
- We aim to deliver home improvements where planned
- We will provide an aids and adaptations service to support residents who may be struggling with day-to-day activities in their home
- We are investing into new homes through the Knutton Master Plan and the redevelopment of Castletown Grange
- We will ensure you have the opportunity to select fixtures and fittings when your kitchen is due for an upgrade

Here's what we'll do...



To **build on existing partnerships** with local residents, businesses, and other key groups to bring investment and services into our area.

We will show local businesses, charities, and organisations what they can do through their employment capacity and support them to do more through **Achieve Training** and **Realise charity**.

### Our Promise...

- We will engage with people and organisations to strengthen local pride and resilience
- We will promote the positive outcomes of anti-social behaviour interventions through social media
- We will work with local health and housing partners to develop a
- We will seek opportunities of funding to fight deprivation, health & income inequalities
- Work with partners to engage young people in social activities



## For Partnerships



### Follow us



Aspire Housing, Kingsley, The Brampton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 0QW

01782 635 200 | www.aspirehousing.co.uk

April 2022 | Version 1



we build / we train / we support : we are aspire

aspire achieve realise