

Castlehill Housing Association Elderly Chinese Amenity Housing



Introduction

Castlehill was initially approached by representatives of the Chinese community concerning the provision of housing for the older Chinese community in Aberdeen.

Meetings took place with members of Social Work and representatives from the Chinese community to establish the extent of need for this proposal. Following discussions, it was agreed that 8 flats in a block, with a common room and associated facilities be included in the proposed development at Linksfield.

General Information

x8 amenity units (6 one bedroom, 2 two bedroom).

Units formed on the ground and first floor of a four-storey block, with its own internal stair and entrance. A common room with kitchen, disabled toilet and storage forms the first floor, which includes one 2 bedroom flat and two 1 bedroom flats. The upper floor includes one 2 bedroom flat and four 1 bedroom flats. The unit forms part of the housing owned by Castlehill but has a separate entrance and exclusive patio/garden area.

Support

The project is designed and allocated as amenity housing for older Chinese people. There is no provision for a warden. However, we employ a Support Worker who visits the scheme one _ day per week. The Support Worker speaks Cantonese and assists tenants with issues such as housing benefit, bills, reporting repairs and other issues affecting tenancies. Our Support Worker also assists in visits for new tenants, as and when necessary. The service is partly funded through Supporting People and partly through service charges to tenants.

Common Facilities

The development includes a common room and kitchen, storage and toilet facilities. Primarily, tenants use this facility, but it has been designed to enable it to be used by the wider older Chinese community. Currently used for lunch clubs, mahjong sessions and a place to gather for particular celebrations and events.

The Committee of representatives from the older Chinese Community and Castlehill jointly approached charitable and other organisations to raise funds for this.

Revenue for maintaining the facility is primarily met through a lease agreement with the Aberdeen Elderly Chinese Association and Castlehill. Tenants also pay amounts within their service charge for use of the facility.

Rent and Services (2008)

1 Bedroom Flat

Rent	£246.18
Services	<u>£ 40.86</u>
	<u>£287.04</u>

2 Bedroom Flat

Rent	£281.99
Services	<u>£ 40.86</u>
	<u>£322.85</u>