

Your regular update on
what's happening with
the regeneration of
Druids Heath



**DRUIDS
HEATH
TOGETHER**

Rehousing and Clearance Update



We have nearly reached the end of 2021 and are continuing with the approved rehousing from the tower blocks following the demolition of Baverstock Academy and Heath House.

We are currently supporting residents to move from Saxelby, Kingswood and Barratts House. Dedicated Druids Heath clearance officer Assif is working with affected residents and has produced a letter which includes an update on home loss payment and changes in



housing priority bands.

For further information regarding this, please contact our Senior Housing Development Officer:

assif.raza@birmingham.gov.uk



Former Royal British Legion Site, Bells Lane

This site had been leased by the council in the 1960s but has been empty and derelict for the last ten years with anti-social behaviour recently and so the council has taken the site back under its control and plans to redevelop it for new homes.

The site has been secured to stop any more anti-social behaviour and will be prepared for demolition.

If residents have any queries regarding the security of the site, please contact our Senior Housing Development Officer: **clive.trafford@birmingham.gov.uk**

Resident Engagement

We have appointed experienced resident engagement and regeneration organisation, 'The Pioneer Group', who helped transform the Castle Vale estate working with local residents there. Pioneer will work in Druids Heath by bringing together residents and the council in a dialogue to understand the local area and work together to help develop ideas for the masterplan.

Working with residents, Pioneer will help to ensure the council create a masterplan for the area which brings together and engages all residents



in the regeneration.

Pioneer have set up a base in Druids Heath Library on Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings to meet residents and other stakeholders for group sessions.

Pioneer will also run:

- Weekly estate walkabouts
- Surveys to ask for your views
- Work with schools on the estate, providing briefings on the master planning and create a film to record the change and regeneration
- Monthly career clinics at the library, run by the Place 2 Work employment team (next meeting is on 16 Dec at the Druids Heath Library)

- Sessions and workshops:
 - Art of Possible Discussions, All things Housing: 4 Dec, 10.30am, Manningford Hall
 - Art of Possible Discussions, Community, Leisure and Wellbeing: 15 Dec, 6.00pm, Druids Heath Library
 - Walk and Talks: 14 Dec, 10.30am, starting at Druids Heath Library
 - Walk and Talks: 17 Dec, 10.30am, starting at Druids Heath Library

For more information on Pioneer and resident engagement, please contact: christine.kitaka@pioneergroup.org.uk
7776959476
pioneergroup.org.uk

 **The Pioneer Group**
Making lives and communities better

What's happening next?

We've demolished Baverstock School and Heath House and have continued rehousing following our approval to continue to clear land for the regeneration.

Approvals and Planning:

We're taking a report to the December Cabinet Meeting to secure the approvals needed to work with residents and Pioneer to create a masterplan for a bigger regeneration that residents have asked for. The cabinet is made up of the leader and councillors they choose to lead on specific policy areas who make

significant decisions collectively.

What we want to do:

Building on the work undertaken by the Partnership Board, explore with residents ideas through themes centred around Environment, Open Spaces and Sustainability; Employment, Skills and Local Economy; Community, Leisure & Wellbeing and All Things Housing.

Updated Housing Advice Service

- Birmingham Advice Aid now provides comprehensive advice around a wide range of

issues including homelessness legislation, tenant rights, S21 notices, benefits, harassment, mortgage arrears, domestic abuse, rights of occupation, welfare reform, illegal eviction, rent arrears, housing disrepair and much more.

- The Housing Advice service is a step by step guide to dealing with housing issues and is simple to use. People accessing the service don't need to give any personal details about themselves or where they live.

Visit birmingham.adviceaid.uk/

More information will follow in the new year.