

## Tenant Forum

We believe that it is essential to consider the views of you, our tenants, about the homes you live in and the services that Comhar Housing provides you with.

We are committed to putting our customers at the heart of service delivery and we believe that by listening and taking on board the views of our tenants, we can ensure

that policies and services are more responsive to the changing needs of our tenants and aspirations of our organisation.

We are hoping to create a working group - Comhar's Housing Tenant Forum - over the next few months. If this is something that you would like to get involved in, please let us know by emailing us at [communitydevelopment@comharhousing.ie](mailto:communitydevelopment@comharhousing.ie)



## Solar Panels



Your home has been built to very high standards with solar panels fitted on the roof of your house or apartment block to generate electricity. These solar panels will run constantly and generate electricity when there is enough sunlight, without you needing to adjust any controls. The amount of electricity generated will vary from day to day and throughout the year, with more electricity being generated during the spring and summer months.

### How your solar panels work

Solar panels convert sunlight into electricity. This electricity is automatically used in your home to run appliances, lighting, and any electrical equipment and replaces some of the electricity you would otherwise have to purchase from your electricity supplier. And to make best use of your system the basic rule is if the suns shining that's the best time to charge your devices, run the washing machine or other electrical appliances. This system will therefore save you money. As sunlight

varies each day and throughout the year the solar panels will only ever contribute to your electricity use and you will still have electricity charges from your electricity supplier.

### What else do you need to know

- During any interruption to your electricity supply your solar panels will stop working, it's a Health and Safety requirement. This means that if you have a pre-pay electricity meter your solar panels will not work during any periods when you run out of credit. You should therefore ensure that you have credit on your electricity meter so you are able to get the full benefit of your solar panels.
- No electrical work should be carried out to your home without Comhar Housing giving permission and in the event that any electrical contractor is working in your home they need to be advised that solar panels are present.
- Comhar Housing is responsible for maintaining your solar panels and any related equipment in your

## Useful Local Community Contacts and Links

Dublin Northwest Partnership  
(01) 836 1666

Finglas Training Centre CDET  
(01) 814 0200

Finglas Youth Resource Centre  
(01) 864 2595

### Don't know your EIRCODE?

To get it, click on this link [www.eircode.ie](http://www.eircode.ie) then click on 'Find an Eircode' and either type in your address or click on 'Use my Location'. Your eircode will then appear on your screen.

home. If you believe your system is not working, or you require any further information on the solar panels at your home, please contact Comhar Housing on 01-6964570

- The solar panels on your roof provide electricity for some, or all, of your electricity needs. Any unused surplus electricity spills onto the electricity grid. This means that you may be entitled to receive credits on your account for this spilled electricity. This is called the 'Feed-in Tariff' - We recommend you contact your electricity provider to see if you are entitled to this credit.

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**Email Us**  
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[www.comharhousing.ie](http://www.comharhousing.ie)

# Newsletter

Churchwell Gardens

Issue 04

Spring  
2023

## Welcome

Welcome to Comhar Housings' first newsletter of the year. It is uplifting to see that spring is in the air with the days getting longer and the evenings brighter, birds singing, and the daffodils that we planted in winter beginning to bloom. In this edition, we cover topics such as spring cleaning, minding our dogs, and the setting up of a Tenants' Forum. We hope that you enjoy it!



COMHAR HOUSING



# Dogs

## FUN FACT

Human blood pressure goes down when petting a dog.

We remind you that you must keep your pets under control at all times.

If you allow your pet to cause a nuisance (such as a dog barking continually inside or outside your home), or it is causing a health hazard, we will ask you to find it a new home.



Dogs are great companions to many of our tenants in Churchwell Gardens. However, it is very important to be a responsible owner to keep you and your neighbours safe.

You must not allow your pets to roam or foul in shared or public areas, it is never nice to walk in dog poo. Dogs must be on the lead at all times when they're in communal areas.

**Please remember:** It's against the rules of your agreement to keep any dog on the list of banned breeds or a hybrid of any of these breeds. If you are thinking of getting a dog and want to check, please contact us for further advice.

**All dog owners are required by law to possess a dog license**

## Spring Clean

With the days lengthening and the weather warming, now is a good time to tackle some of those spring cleaning jobs we all put on the long finger, both inside and outside your home.

### Get cleaning:

- Your **cooking hood filters** and make a plan to clean them often.
- Your **cooker** - a build-up of grease, apart from being ugly, can cause fires, so wipe down your cooker and oven with mild household detergent or warm soapy water. Try to keep it clean and avoid the risk.



- **Your wall vents** - Keeping your house ventilated is the best way of tackling mould so vacuum your wall vents and wipe with a damp cloth to keep them clear and prevent mould from growing in the first place.

### Windows and Doors

- Clean the inside of your window frames, using water and mild household detergent.
- Wipe down the glass with warm soapy water, a squeegee will help keep them streak free.
- Make sure moving parts (hinges, locks, handles, etc.) are clean and free of grit, dirt, or mortar.
- Apply an acid-free oil, Vaseline, or a silicone lubricant to the moving parts.



Test your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors



## Spring in the Garden

**Spring is a busy month in the garden. If you have space for a small balcony garden, or if you have access to an allotment, you can start to sow your vegetable patch with carrots, parsnips, leeks, beetroot, lettuce, summer cabbage and cauliflower.**

Watch the weather forecast for frost warnings and cover outdoor seedlings with fabric to protect them during spells of frost. You will also need to protect seedlings from pests such as slugs with a suitable

product. A handy household product that works is salt.

Prune and feed your roses; this will help them grow stronger and produce larger, more plentiful blooms in summer.

And finally, it is time to plant your summer flowers.

To promote sustainable food production Comhar Housing is offering tenants vegetable seed packs for you to grow in your garden.

If you want to get involved contact [communitydevelopment@comharhousing.ie](mailto:communitydevelopment@comharhousing.ie) to have some sent to you.