



For immediate release – 28 February 2019

Ambitious Plans for Bellsmyre Regeneration Unveiled

Proposals for the regeneration of the Bellsmyre area in Dumbarton through the construction of 180 new, affordable, two-storey homes to replace 225 traditional flats are unveiled today.

The ambitious proposals, from Bellsmyre Housing Association and its parent organisation, Caledonia Housing Association, will see the demolition of some of the older, less popular three-storey tenements in the Bellsmyre neighbourhood in Dumbarton and the construction of family friendly, principally front/back door houses, each with their own garden.

The total cost of the regeneration project will be in the region of £30m and will be funded through a combination of public and private funding raised by Caledonia Housing Association.

As a first step, a consultation process is being launched by Caledonia and Bellsmyre Housing Associations at the Cutty Sark Centre, 58 Howatshaws Road, Dumbarton G82 3DR from 2-8pm on 5 March in a drop-in format. There, officials of the housing associations will outline the plans and answer questions from local community members about the proposals. Thereafter, the proposals will be on display in the reception area of Bellsmyre Housing Association, 16 Merkins Ave, Dumbarton G82 3EB, from 6 March to 22 March. The views of residents are being sought and there will be facilities for providing feedback.

Julie Cosgrove, Chief Executive of Caledonia Housing Association, said:
“These proposals have the potential to dramatically improve the lives of Bellsmyre residents and families for many years to come and I am delighted that we have found a way to make this a potential reality.

“We have listened to what our tenants and service users have told us and we have responded. Now we want to hear from the people of Bellsmyre about what they think of our plans.”

Jackie Baillie, MSP for Dumbarton, said:
“These are really positive proposals for Bellsmyre. Building new houses, taking down the flats and regenerating the area will transform our local community and make a big difference to the lives of many local residents. I encourage members of our community to engage with the consultation process as this is a great opportunity to build on previous investment in the area and to put Bellsmyre firmly on the map.”

Ends

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Notes to editors

Caledonia Housing Association

Caledonia Housing Association is one of Scotland's leading providers of high quality affordable homes for people in housing need. It owns and manages around 4,000 homes across Tayside, Fife and the Highlands, with just over 1,500 owned and managed in West Dunbartonshire by Cordale Housing Association and Bellsmyre Housing Association.

Caledonia Housing Association is a registered Scottish Charity and provides homes for rent and also low cost ownership. It caters for many diverse needs, offering mainstream housing for families, couples and single people, as well as supported accommodation, sheltered and amenity housing, residential care and other specially adapted properties, including those specifically designed for wheelchair users.

<https://caledoniaha.co.uk>

Bellsmyre Housing Association

Bellsmyre Housing Association, a subsidiary of Caledonia Housing Association, was founded in September 1992 with an initial housing stock of 150 properties following a stock transfer from Scottish Homes. It now has approximately 600 properties within the Bellsmyre area of Dumbarton. It also provides a management/factoring service for over 480 owner-occupiers in Bellsmyre.

<https://www.bellsmyrehousing.org.uk/>