

Our local plan at GHA for the next five years

Royston, Germiston, Blackhill/Provanmill, Balornock East
and Barmulloch



GHA's new five-year strategy, 'Investing In Our Futures', has been shaped by listening to feedback from our tenants about what is important to them.

This leaflet tells you what this means for you and your local area between now and 2020. It sets out what local people told us their priorities were and what we plan to do in your community over the next five years. This leaflet covers the communities of Royston, Germiston, Blackhill/Provanmill, Balornock East and Barmulloch.

What you told us



Rosemount new-build development

In developing the local plan we engaged with tenants on their priorities during our customer conversations, talked to people at community events and met with local groups.

We heard feedback on the need to continue to invest in our homes and communities, particularly for tenants who have not had external improvements due to sharing blocks with owners and those that had been invested in pre-GHA.

Better homes, better lives

There was a strong feeling further environmental improvements were needed for a number of communities, including fencing and open spaces.

Some customers told us about the need for more homes of the right sizes within their area as some families were outgrowing their homes and having to leave the community.

Other priorities included improving the repairs and maintenance service, tackling condensation and helping to address fuel poverty by installing more cost-efficient heating systems in some property types.

What we plan to do

Excellent services

Our aim is to exceed customer expectations in everything we do. We will provide customers with more choice, control and flexibility on how they interact with us and design a range of person-centred services based on in-depth understanding of their needs and aspirations.

We will make it easy and convenient for people to request services and make payments online or, if they prefer, on the phone 24/7 to our Customer Service Centre.

In this area we will work with community groups and local Click & Connect computer learning centres to help our customers move to online services, if they choose to, through access to the right skills and tools.

An excellent repairs service is a top priority for customers. That's why we'll work closely with City Building to improve the customer experience of repairs.

For example, we'll focus on keeping customers informed, delivering on agreed response times, quality workmanship and good value for money.

We will help tenants to help themselves and build their resilience to welfare reforms by using our wraparound services, including welfare benefits advice, fuel advice, My Great Start, Tenancy Support Service and employability.

Investing in your homes

Over the next five years we will invest in improving existing homes to meet tenants' needs and expectations.

We will focus on what you have told us is important to you.

This will include:

- improving all of our homes
- seeking alternatives to electric heating in our multi-storeys
- investing in pre-GHA owned homes
- improving participation of owners and private landlords
- improving the energy efficiency of homes through a boiler-replacement programme.

Improving the living environment

We will work with customers to ensure Royston and Unity are communities where people are proud to live and feel safe and secure.

We will:

- improve bin stores that are not fit for purpose
- bring all our neighbourhoods up to 'Gold Standard' condition
- work with the Council so there's a coordinated approach to maintaining open spaces
- improve front gardens and paths in our tenement properties
- tackle fencing for our main door properties
- continue our work with partners to develop youth diversionary activities (for example Operation Reclaim and Royston Youth Action)
- work with the Council to encourage responsible dog ownership and reduce dog fouling.

New-build

GHA will widen the housing choices available to our customers, investing £320 million to build or acquire 4000 affordable homes in Glasgow.

In Unity, 155 new homes were completed in 2010 and a further 157 new homes completed in August 2015.

And 99 new affordable homes are currently under construction in Roystonhill with final completion expected this summer.

We will continue to identify opportunities for new affordable housing for social and mid-market rent in Royston and Unity to address local housing needs, including downsizing and family housing in the right places.

Better homes, better lives

We will explore opportunities to include amenity housing within our new-build plans, offering our older customers alternative options to mainstream or sheltered housing.

Transforming lives

We provide support that is flexible to people's changing needs, so vulnerable older people and people with long-term conditions are able to live well in their homes for longer, rather than going into institutional care.

Measuring success

The Royston & Unity Housing Committee will monitor how well we are doing against the local commitments outlined in this leaflet. Our plans will be reviewed and refreshed annually to make sure they continue to reflect local priorities.

Tell us what you think

Customer feedback is important to us and shapes how we deliver and prioritise our services. We offer a range of ways our customers can engage with us and express their views.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch. We're happy to talk. You'll find contact numbers at the end of this leaflet.

How can I find out more?

We will keep you updated as our plans progress, but if you have any questions, or would like more information, please get in touch.

You can phone us on 0800 479 7979 or email talk@gha.org.uk

You can also pop in to see us in our local office at Unity Homes, 217 Wallacewell Road, and Royston Corridor Homes, 143 Charles Street (Unit 18).