

August Monthly Email

Dear tenant,

This month we are hosting our 'Your Home, Your Voice' Tenant Conference, and we would love for you to be there!

Your Home, Your Voice Tenant Conference!

We are hosting an event all about our tenants and leaseholders.

When: Saturday 22 August 2026

Time: 09:30am-13:30pm

Where: Maison Dieu (Town Hall), Biggin Street, CT16 1DL

We would like this to be an opportunity for us to share our plans for the future, including our strategies for investing in homes and neighbourhoods. Just as importantly, we want to hear directly from you – your views, experiences and priorities will help shape how we deliver and improve our services going forward.

There will be information stalls from departments across the Council who are there to give support and advice. You will find your Housing Officers, Waste Services, Parks and Open Spaces, Tenant Engagement, Housing Development, Shared Ownership and Community Development.

If you are interested in meeting our Contractors and external organisations you can!

You can get advice from Mears, Sureserve, PJC, NRT and Town and Country Cleaners. We will also be joined by Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue, The Big Local, Future Skills CIC and Kent Adult Education.

There will be a designated team on hand to provide activities for children, including a FREE face painter.

There will also be the chance for 4 lucky people to win £25 vouchers!

This is a drop in event, but to reserve your place.

Get your FREE tickets here.

Garden Competition Winners!

A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in the Garden Competition this year, it was so lovely to see what wonderful gardens are in our district.

We would like to thank the Dover District Tenant's Consultative Group for teaming up with us, as well as Mears and Sureserve who sponsored the event.

So, the winners of the 2026 Garden Competition are:

Best Front Garden

1st Place – Beryl, in Ash

2nd Place – Gerald, in Sandwich

Honourable mention – Audrey and Gill, in Whitfield

Best Back Garden

1st Place – Ed, in Deal

2nd Place – Janet, in Ash

Honourable mention – Emil, in Sandwich

Most Improved

1st Place – Emil, in Sandwich

2nd Place – Jane and Margaret, in Deal

Honourable Mention – Julie, in Woodnesborough

Best Garden by a Tenant with a Disability

1st Place – Gerald, in Sandwich

2nd Place – Julie, in Woodnesborough

Honourable Mention – Audrey and Gill, in Whitfield

Best Small Space

1st Place – Nicola, in Deal

Best Communal Garden

1st Place – Dot, in Deal

Best Young Gardener

1st Place – Emil's children, in Sandwich

Best Independent Living Scheme

1st Place – Richard and Maggie, in Deal

The annual Tenant Survey is OPEN!

Every year we open our Tenant Survey to hear your views on the services we provide.

As part of new national standards introduced by the Regulator of Social Housing, we are now required to report on how well we're performing as a social housing provider. These standards, known as Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs), are designed to give tenants a stronger voice and help hold landlords to account.

To complete the survey please click here [Tenant Survey 2026](#)

Alternatively, you can complete the survey on paper. A copy will be posted to you along with the Tenant Newsletter in the coming months.

You only need to complete the survey once. If you submit two responses, we will use the results from the most recent submission.

You can also view last year's results on our website

<https://www.dover.gov.uk/housing/performance-and-satisfaction/tenant-satisfaction-measures>

Roadshow Events

We have kicked off our Roadshow Events in Aylesham and Deal, next we will be heading to:

Dover – Buckland Community Centre on the 18 August

Sandwich – Corner of Birch and Laburnum on the 25 August

All Roadshow Events are between 10am-12pm

If you have any questions or queries, or would just like to meet your Housing Team, then come along!

This is a family friendly event, with lots of children's activities included.

Shared Ownership event

We want to say a big thank you to everyone who attended the Shared Ownership event on the 6 August.

We hope it provided an insight into what Shared Ownership is and whether it is the right choice for you.

We will be aiming to do more in the future, so if you were unable to make it, we hope to see you next time!

Communal Fire Alarm Project

We are removing communal fire alarms in some DDC buildings. This will not affect smoke detectors inside your home.

Fire safety experts and national guidance confirm that in buildings with a Stay Put strategy, communal alarms are not needed and may cause confusion.

This approach is supported by Kent Fire & Rescue Service.

If this applies to you, you will receive a letter from May 2026 explaining this.

For more information, please visit our website

<https://www.dover.gov.uk/housing/council-tenants/repairs/fire-safety-in-blocks>

What's on in the district!

Besides the events Dover District Council are hosting, there is a lot more on offer around the district.

Find out what's on here. <https://www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk/whats-on>

Kind regards,

The Strategic Housing Team

Dover District Council