



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Policy Statement

Redland will work with Residents to promote community activities, and a sense of community amongst residents, because that contributes to safer, sustainable and more stable communities and makes our homes pleasant places to live.

Scope

This policy sets out how Redland will promote community development and how we recognise the diverse needs, aspirations and choices of residents.

Principles

- We recognise that most of our developments are individually small communities, but we are committed to working with and supporting others who are active in the wider communities and neighbourhoods.
- We are committed to working proactively to develop communities on our own estates in a way that achieves the objectives of this policy.
- We recognise the diversity of those estates, and the diversity of needs and aspirations of their residents.
- Because of the number and diversity of communities in relation to our size, and with an objective of promoting independence, a key principle is that community development initiatives should have an enabling focus, encouraging and supporting residents to sustain communities and neighbourhoods.
- We see the use of the estate meetings as a driver for community development within Redland's own estates.
- We recognise the need to ensure the application of these principles from the outset at new developments.
- Redland will provide funding, through community development, neighbourhoods works and estate improvements, budgets as drivers for community development.

- Key outcomes for community development should be in response to community safety and security concerns, as well as issues raised by residents themselves, particularly focusing on issues identified in satisfaction surveys (eg. Status) which concern residents about our neighbourhoods generally.

Application

Housing Officers and the Tenant Liaison Officer will identify:-

- Opportunities for Redland to work in partnership with other agencies in projects affecting neighbourhoods where we have stock.
- Opportunities to develop communities within Redland's own developments.

Neighbourhood works and community development budgets provide funding to support projects. In addition, the Tenant Liaison budget provides funding for community development linked to more formal resident involvement structures.

The Redland Board is responsible for ensuring that community development objectives are effectively implemented.

The Managing Director is responsible for developing a culture within the organisation which sees the development of communities, the proper maintenance of estates and neighbourhoods, and the involvement of residents in those processes, as important.

Team Leaders within the organisation are responsible for ensuring the implementation of the policies in their areas of work.

Monitoring

Priorities for community development will be established through transparent mechanisms to identify need.

Objectives will be set for all community development projects, and outcomes monitored.

Associated Documents

A framework for community development, estate meetings and estate improvements.

Estate improvements procedure

Asset management and resident involvement strategies

Review

This policy is effective from November 2007.

This policy is due for review by November 2010.

The responsible officer is Head of Housing.

The responsible focus group is Estate Management.