

# NEWSLETTER

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## **ACTIVITIES ON YOUR ESTATE - YOUR VIEWS**

We want to continue to work with partners like Medway Adult Education to put on FREE activities and events for our residents, but we need to hear what you want from us.

By taking this short survey, you'll help us to understand what activities you want us to put on in your area and allow us to plan accordingly. Thank you for your time!

Please <u>click here</u> to take the survey.

## HRA DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

HRA phase 4 project in Twydall has started. Phase 4 consists of 3 sites which will deliver a total of 28 new units into the HRA. The 3 sites are Woodchurch Green, Eastcourt Lane and the garage site on Lynsted Road. All 3 sites are due to be completed by Autumn 2022.



Lynsted Road



Eastcourt Lane



Woodchurch Green

# **ANNUAL REPORT SURVEY**

It's time to collate our 2021 Annual Report, and we'd love to hear your views on what it should be like!



Our Annual Report gives you an overview of all areas of our work and performance as Medway Housing Services over the last year.

Do you have any thoughts about <u>our last report</u>? Do you have an idea for the design of our next one?

We would like to ask for your views and ideas to help us in planning every aspect of the report! Please <u>click here to take</u> the short survey.

#### **HOUSING & MONEY SESSIONS IN TWYDALL**

Medway Housing tenants are invited to attend Housing and Money sessions for FREE advice relating to benefits, Universal Credit, rent arrears, debt advice or other housing support.

Day: Every Wednesday

Time: 9am - 1pm

Location: Twydall Library

Day: Every Friday

Time: 1pm - 4:30pm

Location: Twydall Library

Please call 01634 337733 to book your appointment.

### THE FAMILY MILE SUMMER EXTRAVAGANZA

The Mason Foundation are holding a FREE Family Mile event at Great Lines Heritage Park on Saturday 22nd August!

After the difficult year we've all had, the event is the perfect way to reconnect communities, bringing people together to do 'Their Mile, Their Way'.

Expect exciting activities, fantastic giveaways, fun workouts, upbeat music and open green spaces where the kids (and parents) can put down their phones and have some outdoorsy fun - all completely free! Medway Housing Services will also be in attendance to chat to you!



# **STICKS 'N' STONES FESTIVAL**

Come along to this wellbeing festival hosted by the Paramount Foundation on Saturday 28th August.

The wellbeing festival showcases a vast array of Medway services. FREE entry and free activities such as yoga, boxing, football, music, children's games, candle making, massage therapy, carpentry, mechanics and more!



#### FREE DROP-IN FOOTBALL

FREE Drop-In Football sessions for children and teens are taking part every weekend in six parks across Medway! There is no need to sign up, and you're welcome to come along on the day.

Contact childfriendly@medway.gov.uk for more details.



#### SUMMER ACTIVITY CLUBS AND FREE MEALS



Don't miss this exciting opportunity for children receiving benefits-related free school meals to attend free summer activities taking place in Medway this August.

Children in receipt of benefits-related free school meals will be able to access four-hour sessions, four days a week, over the four weeks of August.

This is a great opportunity for children to have fun and make new friends, all in a safe and supportive environment. The Department for Education has provided funding to all local authorities in England so that they can offer eligible children free activities and a tasty and nourishing meal this summer. These activity sessions are optional, and a great way of children making new friends, taking part in a physical activity and being engaged over the summer holidays.

Open for bookings now - visit <u>go.medway.gov.uk</u>.

#### **EVERYDAY ACTIVE WEBSITE**



The Everyday Active website is the 'go to' website for everything physical activity related in Medway. Over the coming months we shall be updating our Community Page, which includes an activity finder as well as physical activity recommendations for all ages and abilities. <u>Click here to visit the site!</u>



Get Help Now In an emergency always call 999 For non-emergency specialist support: Kent 0808 16 89 111 Medway 0800 917 9948 www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk



# WHAT IS FINANCIAL ABUSE?

1 in 5 adults in the UK have experienced economic abuse from a current or former partner.

# What is economic abuse?

When someone restricts, controls or sabotages a person's access to money or other resources e.g. food, clothes, transport, place to live. Signs that someone is experiencing economic abuse:

- Prevention from taking employment or taking your pay
- Refusing access to a bank account
- Taking children's birthday money or savings
- Controlling how money is spent / dictating what can be bought
- Controlling the use of property e.g. phones
- Keeping financial information secret
- Stealing your money or property
- Insisting all bills, credit cards, loans are in your name and making you pay for them
- Building up debt in your name, sometimes without your knowledge

Find help at <u>www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk</u>.

#### LIGHT UP OUTSIDE: REDUCE FIRE RISK

Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) is urging smokers to light up outside to reduce the risk of fire in homes across the county.

Despite the number of people smoking in the UK falling, Kent is seeing a continuous trend in the number of property fires linked to smoking – with fire crews tackling the equivalent of one smoking related fire every single week

Most often these types of fires start when smokers light up and then fall asleep or get distracted, or when they throw cigarettes away carelessly or bin them while still hot.

These accidental incidents are often avoidable and that's why KFRS has launched its campaign called 'Smoke Outside, Feel Safer Inside' to urge people who currently smoke indoors, to do so outdoors. <u>Click here to read more</u>.