

On the move

News, views and advice for the communities of **Mill House** and **The Burgesses**



Jackie Ilic and Linda Taylor at Mill House

“It’s been lovely to meet everyone”

Rehousing support officer Jackie Ilic tells us about her first weeks in Mill House and The Burgesses

One of the people we introduced at the residents’ meeting in November was Jackie Ilic. Since then she has been busy getting to know everyone. We caught up with her between visits to residents and their families...

“The first thing I’d really like to say to everyone is ‘thank you’. The residents of Mill House and The Burgesses have made me very welcome and there has been such a positive response to our plans to provide high quality homes for older people here in Kinver.”

Jackie is experienced at helping people to move home, having supported a similar redevelopment project in Penkrudge.

“I’ve been working in housing for 12 years and spent a lot of time helping to support older people who needed to move home – including those who moved out of the old building

at Penkrudge which was replaced by new apartments in a high quality building known as River View. I have also helped other older residents who wanted to downsize after their families grew up and left home.

“I’ve learned that the most important thing is each resident has their own individual needs and requirements and the importance of keeping residents closely involved at every stage of their moves. I’m here to listen to your concerns and provide advice and support that is completely tailored to individual needs. Everyone has my contact details and I will be on-site at least once a week. Keep your notepad handy and if you think of anything you need to ask me about, jot it down and we’ll talk it through. Of course, you can always speak to your scheme manager, Linda Taylor.”

“..the most important thing is each resident has their own individual needs and requirements..”

Top tips for a smooth move

Moving home can be stressful at any age. There are some things you can do, though, to make your move a little smoother — especially when you have time to plan ahead. If you live in Mill House you will be able to stay in your current home for the next couple of years. Starting to prepare now, can make your move even easier.



1 De-clutter

It's a lot less stressful to do this a little at a time, before you need to move.

Most of us have got lots of possessions that we don't really need and won't ever use. Take a look around your home and see if there is are things which you could do without. Maybe there are pieces of furniture or keepsakes which could be kept safe in the family or things you'd like to donate to charity or recycle?

Experts tell us that the best way to de-clutter our homes is by starting small and beginning in the kitchen or bathroom with things that have less sentimental attachment.

2 Take pictures

If you like the way that a room is furnished, with everything you need within reach, take a picture of it so that you can turn your new accommodation into a home-from-home.

3 Think about the layout of your new home

Are you moving somewhere with bigger or smaller rooms? Are the rooms in your new home a different shape? Start thinking about where your furniture will go and whether you need to make any changes.

4 Don't over do it!

There's no rush. Just promise yourself that you'll spend fifteen or twenty minutes a day or tackle a drawer at a time.

5 Start a list

Make a list of everything you need for the first night in your new home. Then, when it is time to pack, you can make sure that one box contains all these things – a kettle, teabags, a favourite mug, any medication you need, toiletries, breakfast cereal and a bowl and your mobile phone charger if you use one.

The next issue of On the move will be with you at the end of January

- Read all about the road-trip to River View and see photographs taken on the day
- Hear from residents already planning exciting moves
- Hear the latest updates on the development plans
- Get answers to some frequently asked questions

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A road trip to River View, Penkridge

Some of you were keen to take a look at an example of the type of homes we want to create at Mill House and The Burgesses.

The most recent project of this kind that we have undertaken has been at River View, Penkridge. There, we have built 41 new high quality apartments with communal facilities designed to meet the needs of older residents. The apartments are in a safe, friendly and secure new environment where care and support services are available to meet the residents' needs.

The first residents will be moving in to River View in January. In advance of this, people from Mill House and the Burgesses have had an exclusive preview of the newly-built homes.

Jackie Ilic arranged transport to River View and everyone got bags of inspiration and ideas from a tour of the show home on the site.

"Everyone understood that the new apartments in Kinver won't look exactly like River View," said Jackie. "Each development is different and meets the particular needs of a local area. It was really useful, though, to see the build quality and style of the new homes and understand the range of care and support on offer to the new residents. I think people were really excited by the prospect of homes like this in Kinver."

So what did everyone think of the River View road trip?

"Insert quote here....."

— First Last

"Insert quote here....."

— First Last



For anyone who wasn't able to make the trip, here are a few pictures taken at River View. If you have access to a computer, you can also watch a video walk around the development here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnmhhdSNn4A

A 'moving' story

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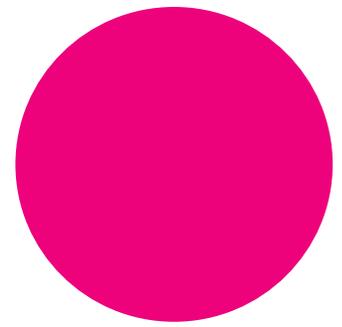
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Frequently asked questions

What is meant by affordable housing?

We are referring to homes which are available to rent at a lower cost than comparable privately-rented accommodation. All the new one-bedroomed apartments will be available at a lower rent than privately-owned property in the area, although the rent is expected to be higher than for the bedsits in the current building.

Will Mill House residents get the opportunity to move into the new Burgesses when the redevelopment is complete?

Yes.

Who will support those vulnerable tenants who do not have family to help?

Jackie Ilic has been appointed as the rehousing support officer. She will offer support throughout the process.

If you currently live in a one-bedroomed flat would the rent be the same in the new build?

It is impossible to give precise information about the costs at this very early stage but it is likely that the costs would increase reflecting the higher specification of the homes. Service charges may also be slightly higher.

Will vacant properties in Mill House be let now or in the future?

No further properties will be advertised and let out; only people currently living in the Burgesses will have the opportunity to be rehoused in Mill House.

If we decide to move now can we do that or do we have to wait until planning permission has been granted?

If you have suitable alternative accommodation you can move now. There is no need to wait until planning permission has been obtained. You will be entitled to the Home Loss and Disturbance payments from this point onwards.

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