

# Lochside newsletter

June 2025 Issue 04

**Wheatley Homes South and Dumfries and Galloway Council** are working closely with the local community to transform Lochside into a **thriving, healthy and sustainable neighbourhood** for people to live, learn and work.

## Masterplan launch drop-in event

The next Lochside regeneration drop-in event takes place on Wednesday, 2 July and will also see the official launch of the masterplan.

Taking place at the YMCA Café on Lochside Road between 3pm and 7pm, Wheatley Homes and Dumfries and Galloway Council are hosting a public event that will allow local residents to learn more about the regeneration masterplan and to speak with Wheatley and council staff.

The formal launch of the masterplan by Alex Lamb, Wheatley Homes Managing Director, and representatives of Dumfries and Galloway Council, will take place at 4pm.

This is a drop-in event, so feel free to come by at any time during the session.



## Green light for £130 million transformation of Lochside

A masterplan aimed at delivering the region's largest ever regeneration project was approved on Tuesday 3 June by Dumfries and Galloway Council's Economy and Infrastructure Committee.

The £130 million regeneration is being delivered in partnership with the local community, the council, and Wheatley Homes, the region's largest social landlord.

Over 1300 tenants, residents and local businesses have so far helped shape the community-led regeneration by sharing their views on the future of the area.

Alex Lamb, Managing Director of Wheatley Homes in the south, said: "This decision paves the way for a bright new future for Lochside.

"Working with Dumfries and Galloway Council and the

Scottish Government we hope to start work on delivering a bright new future for Lochside in 2027."

**Councillor Andy Ferguson, chair of the council's Economy and Infrastructure Committee and local Member said:** "The approval of the Lochside Masterplan is a major step forward for both the local community and Dumfries and Galloway as a whole. It shows our commitment to regeneration that's shaped by local people and focused on inclusive growth."

"After an incredible number of responses from local residents, the Council will support Wheatley Homes South to lead on delivering much-needed housing and, together with the community and partners, will help turn the Masterplan into reality. This is a true example of collaboration delivering for local people."

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## Glentool Park now open

The brand-new playpark in Glentool Park has opened.

This facility, funded by the National Lottery, was delivered in partnership between YMCA Dumfries, Glentool Park Steering Group and Dumfries and Galloway Council.

The playpark offers a safe, welcoming space for children of all ages to play, explore and enjoy the outdoors. Designed with input from the local community, it features modern, inclusive play equipment that supports healthy, active lifestyles.

Denise Malone, chief executive officer of Dumfries YMCA, said: "The playpark is a brilliant example of what can be done when communities, organisations and funders come together. We're proud to have supported a space where local children can play, grow and thrive."

The park is now brighter and safer thanks to the

installation of new LED lighting along its pathways. This upgrade, funded by a £10,000 investment from Dumfries and Galloway Council, brings enhanced visibility to the park during evening hours – boosting both community safety and confidence.

Residents and visitors alike are already noticing the improvements, making the park a more welcoming space for everyone, day or night.

## Still time to shape the regeneration

Residents in Lochside are being encouraged to help shape the next stage of the regeneration by joining a refreshed residents' group that will meet quarterly and will act as a link between Wheatley and the council and the community.

Alex Lamb added: "By being part of this group, residents would be playing an active role representing the community, shaping the plans and helping deliver on the ambitious regeneration plans for Lochside."

Lochside is one of three community-led regenerations taking place in Wheatley Homes communities, with the others being in Summerhill and in Newington, Annan.

They form part of regeneration and new-build plans by Dumfries and Galloway's largest social landlord which will see hundreds of new and energy-efficient homes delivered by 2026.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the regeneration or joining the residents' group, should use the below QR code or visit: [www.wheatleyhomes-south.com/my-home/my-community/lochside-regeneration](https://www.wheatleyhomes-south.com/my-home/my-community/lochside-regeneration)



Get in touch

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