



## A PROGRESS REPORT FOR HOPTON TENANTS BY HOPTON TENANTS

JULY 2021

*We want to thank everyone who participated in the recent tenant survey and everyone who makes Hopton such a great place to live.*

*We are a group of tenants called Hopton Hopefuls who are working together to make sure older people can “Age Well” at Hopton Court.*

*We think everyone at Hopton is important. We will be organising a meeting for all Hopton tenants in September.*

*This report is an update on progress so far.*

## Achievements Timeline: 2020-2021

<p><b>October 2020</b></p>	<p>On Top of the World project interviews older tenants at Hopton Court with support from a charity called CLASS and the University of Manchester.</p> <p>The interviews show that older people are falling through the gaps in health, housing and social care provision.</p> <p>A new partnership is formed with One Manchester, University of Manchester, Manchester School of Architecture, MCC and CLASS: the <i>Ageing Well in Place in Hulme</i> working group.</p>
<p><b>February 2021</b></p>	<p>A small group of tenants at Hopton set up the Hopton Hopefuls group to take forward ideas about 'ageing well' at Hopton Court.</p>
<p><b>March 2021</b></p>	<p>A report called "Ageing Well in Place in Hulme" is published. The recommendations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age-banding Hopton Court as an Over-50s block</li> <li>• Funding a support worker to do case work with older people making sure they have the information and services they need</li> <li>• Doing a block-wide assessment of the needs of older tenants at Hopton Court and Meredith Court to make sure people have the physical changes they need made to their flats as they get older</li> <li>• Addressing security and access challenges at Hopton Court</li> <li>• Funding a Community Development Worker to work with older tenants and local groups and organisations to create a "Naturally Occurring Retirement Community" programme of activities and support for the Aquarius and St Georges estates</li> </ul>
<p><b>May 2021</b></p>	<p>One Manchester amend their local lettings policy to make Hopton Court an Over-50s block.</p>
<p><b>July 2021</b></p>	<p>One Manchester and Manchester City Council agree to pilot an Independent Living Adviser working with older tenants at Hopton Court (possibly also with tenants in other blocks). This post has not been finalised yet but is expected to commence in Autumn 2021.</p> <p>Partners in the Ageing Well in Place in Hulme working group are working together on joint funding bids to finance the Community Development Worker and construction of a new community building ... watch this space...!</p>

## Selected findings from the Hopton survey...

- ❖ **75% of tenants at Hopton Court and 50% of tenants at Meredith Court are aged Over-50**
- ❖ 55% of tenants at Hopton Court participated in the survey (36 people out of a total of 65 occupied flats)
- ❖ 28/36 tenants said that their neighbours/the people/ the community spirit was what they liked most about living at Hopton
- ❖ **83% of participants said they want to stay living at Hopton as they get older**
- ❖ 23/36 tenants considered the state of repair in their flat to be either 'alright', 'good' or 'very good' (Alright: 14/36; Good: 6; Very Good: 3)



**“Hopton is Home”**



**‘The shared gardens really help. I see people every day. This has a major effect on my sense of wellbeing, it’s come as you are.’**

- 50% of tenants said they have no family in Manchester & 44% said they only spend time with family or friends once a month or less**
- 29/36 tenants said a concierge system would make them feel safer in their accommodation

- ✚ Of the 59/68 Hopton tenants registered at Cornbrook Medical Practice, one third have at least one long term condition and 46% are experiencing anxiety or depression
- ✚ 44% of tenants stated that in the last 12 months they have either found it difficult or mostly been unable to get to all the local places they wanted to
- **61% of tenants said there is nowhere for older people to socialise together in their neighbourhood**
- **35/36 tenants interviewed said that “all things considered” they are in support of a new community space being constructed in the gardens.**

## What next...?

Hopton Hopefuls are taking a break for the summer, but we want to bring everyone together again in September to talk about next steps – check the Ground Floor noticeboard in September for updates (or contact Sophie on 07816752525 / [sophie.king@class-uk.com](mailto:sophie.king@class-uk.com)).

On Top of the World project is continuing to run Wednesday socials 11-1 in the Hopton gardens throughout August (weather permitting) – come down and join in the fun!

You can request a full report of the Hopton Survey findings from Sophie at [sophie.king@class-uk.com](mailto:sophie.king@class-uk.com) or by texting 07816752525.

*We can arrange for an interpreter to help you understand this report and participate in future meetings. Text "INTERPRETER" and your first language to 07816752525*

## Did you know....

- The proportion of older people in Hulme who are living alone (54%) is one of the highest in England and Wales, as are the number of residents claiming pension credits (60%).
- 24% of tower block tenants in the Aquarius area of Hulme are older people living alone.
- The rate of Older People in Deprivation within the Aquarius area is well above the national average at 45.2% (compared to 14.2% across England) and even higher in St Georges at 60.4%.