

FOUR COURTS NEWSLETTER

6 FEBRUARY 2026 **SPECIAL EDITION**



We're sharing this special edition newsletter following some rumours that have been circulating on the estate.

We were contacted by residents who were upset after HASHTA (Hastings Area Southern Housing Tenants' Association) were door knocking within blocks. This was not authorised by Southern Housing. It's not acceptable for anyone to cause worry or confusion by sharing information that isn't accurate.

To be clear, HASHTA is not part of Southern Housing.

We do not recognise them. We will continue working with your Four Courts Steering Group, who represent residents, during the regeneration project.

If you ever hear something that doesn't sound right or leaves you feeling unsure, please come and speak to us. We're here to make sure you have the correct information and feel supported.

MYTH BUSTING

This section sets out the facts about the regeneration and addresses some of the rumours which have been brought to our attention.

"We think it is very important for all tenants to have a voice in the regeneration process."

We agree. Residents already have a strong voice through the Four Courts Steering Group, which is the recognised group representing Four Courts residents throughout the regeneration project.

The Four Courts Steering Group brings residents together to challenge us, share views and advocate for their neighbours. The group represents the interests of Four Courts residents – they're made up of residents living in the Four Courts.

If you'd like more information on joining the group, please contact us by email at four.courts@southernhousing.org.uk or call **0300 303 1066** and ask to speak to the Four Courts Team.

If you live in Bevin or Roosevelt Court, you can also let your **Scheme Housing Officer** know.

"Residents shouldn't feel under undue pressure to move to any property that they don't feel is suitable for them."

We're continuing to handle all moves with sensitivity and care. Residents are being rehoused into homes they choose. We've shared some of their experiences on page 4.

Our Bevin Court residents currently have a dedicated Resettlement Officer supporting them, and every resident will have their own Resettlement Officer when it's their turn to move.

They will guide you throughout your move, from our first discussions with you until you're settled in your new home. They'll do everything they can to ensure each move is based on your individual preferences.

MYTH BUSTING CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

“We, HASHTA, have been in discussion with an architect’s firm who are positive about refurbishment options that would address accessibility, lifts, second stairways and living conditions. They’ve suggested building around 100 new modular homes above the Four Courts car park with less disruption and pollution than traditional construction.”

The level of work being suggested for a refurbishment would be extremely disruptive, and you would need to move out for a long period of time. And even with a significant level of investment, the layout and age of the buildings mean we couldn’t deliver the safe, modern homes you deserve.

The design and layout of the current flats don’t meet modern mobility standards, and the physical constraints of the buildings limit what can realistically be achieved to bring them up to the standard residents expect.

All homes at the Four Courts are one or two bedroom flats. Regeneration gives us the opportunity to replace these outdated blocks with a mix of houses and flats ranging from one to four bedrooms.

The suggestion to build prefabricated homes on the Four Courts car park wouldn’t meet local housing need. It would also mean the loss of parking spaces, which many residents rely on, particularly those who need a car because of restricted mobility.

“Residents would prefer not to leave the Four Courts and would like to be involved in discussions about alternatives to demolition. Our survey indicated that most concerns are about antisocial behaviour, bedbugs and security, not the buildings themselves.”

We’re continually hearing from residents that they’re keen to move. And those who have already moved into a home of their choice have been very happy with both the process and their new home.

We’ll keep taking steps to address concerns about anti social behaviour and bed bugs. This has already included:

- Increased police patrols around the blocks following regular meetings with local officers
- Security patrols at the blocks when needed
- Reviewing CCTV when incidents are reported
- Support from our ASB team and our security contractor
- Continued free bed bug treatment programme, plus trials of alternative treatments based on resident feedback
- Estate walkabouts with our teams to quickly identify and resolve problems
- Regular checks of communal areas to keep entrances, hallways and bin stores clear and secure.

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“Residents don’t need to move, they should approach the council or social services for help.”

This advice is completely unhelpful and misleading. It’s important that residents in Bevin Court and Roosevelt Court are rehoused as quickly as possible so these blocks can be demolished and new social rented homes can be built in their place. The regeneration will see more than £100 million invested in Hollington and an increase in social rented housing, providing local homes for local people.

“It seems likely that any planning application by Southern Housing in the future will require evidence of genuine community engagement at every stage, and we believe HASHTA can play a positive role alongside the resident steering committee in bringing forward more tenant voices and ideas.”

We agree that genuine community engagement is essential. We’ll run a full and compliant planning process in partnership with the Council. Residents will be involved in shaping our regeneration proposals, and several events will take place over the coming months so residents can contribute to the final masterplan.

HASHTA is welcome to share feedback, but the Four Courts Steering Group remains the recognised, formal group we’ll work with to shape future plans and agree how we keep everyone informed.



If you’d like to talk about anything in more detail, you’re always welcome to come along to the monthly drop-in session at Kennedy Court on the first Tuesday of each month, 11am to 3pm.



RESIDENT STORIES

SETTLING WELL INTO NEW HOMES

Angela has recently moved out of Bevin Court and is really happy with her new bungalow in Hastings.

She told us it's "much better than what I thought I'd get" and said she's been able to use her home loss payment to make it feel like her forever home, including buying new curtains, blinds and a tumble dryer. Angela said she's now arranging a few adaptations too, adding that it already feels like "my perfect forever home."

Carol has recently settled into her new home in Rye after moving out of Bevin Court, and she's delighted with the change.

She described the location as "amazing... so quiet" and said living in Rye feels like "a dream come true." Carol told us she never thought she'd be able to live somewhere so beautiful.

She said she has enjoyed buying new furniture to make it feel right for her and has already spent some of her payment on her garden.

Peter, known to many as 'Diesel', has also moved out of Bevin Court and says he already feels at home in his new Independent Living scheme in Hastings.

He told us it felt "like I've come home" after living in the area many years ago. Peter says he has made great new friends and described the scheme managers as "amazing." He's been using his payment to make his flat comfortable and says it has "given me security." He added that he enjoys showing others around because he's proud of how lovely it looks.



SUPPORTING RESIDENTS

We're aware some residents have been upset by leaflets being posted through their door today (Friday 6 February) by HASHTA. These residents have reached out to our team who have been supporting them.

For accurate information about the Four Courts regeneration, please continue to visit your dedicated web page:

www.southernhousing.org.uk/fourcourts

Alternatively, if you're unsure about anything, please get in touch via the details below.

GETTING IN TOUCH

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Do you have any questions? Please contact us if you've any concerns. We're here to support you.

There are a number of ways you can reach us:

 Please call us on **0300 303 1066** and ask to speak to one of the Four Courts Team

 We've a dedicated email address **four.courts@southernhousing.org.uk**

 We've set up a web page where we'll be providing all the updates: **www.southernhousing.org.uk/fourcourts**



Scan the QR code to visit the web page.