18 February 2025

Place recipient address here

Line 1

Line 2

Line 3

Postcode

Dear [Resident’s Name],

**Important update on the future of the Four Courts**

We’re writing to share some important news about the future of the Four Courts and how it will impact you.

The Four Courts have provided much-needed social housing for the local community for decades. However, we recognise the buildings are becoming outdated and don’t meet today’s design and accessibility requirements. Even with significant investment, the existing structures would still fall short of providing fully accessible, and future-proofed homes.

**So after careful consideration and listening to your feedback, we’ve made the decision to redevelop the Four Courts blocks. We’ll be replacing all four blocks and the surrounding facilities with new, high-quality social homes that better serve the needs of current and future residents. This means you and your neighbours will need to move home.**

To support this process, we’ll begin helping residents from Bevin Court move to a suitable, alternative, social housing home that suits their needs. We plan to support all Bevin Court residents to move out by March 2026. Once this process has completed, we’ll then be working with residents of Roosevelt Court to move by March 2027.

**Following this, residents from Churchill Court and Kennedy Court will relocate by March 2028.** These dates are our best forecast at the moment. We’ll keep you and your neighbours updated with regular communications and meetings.

We know this news is likely to come as a shock to you and we want to reassure you we’re here to support you every step of the way. We also know there’s a strong sense of community at the Four Courts and together we’ll ensure you’re able to move to a new home that’s in the local area, if you wish, and close to your support network.

 **More information**
Our colleagues will be onsite at the Four Courts over the coming days to support you and answer your questions. Please find enclosed with this letter a booklet that explains:

* More about the proposals for the Four Courts and the future redevelopment
* A set of frequently asked questions to answer the queries you may have at this stage
* Some examples of the independent living homes that may be available for Bevin and Roosevelt Court residents
* A timeline for this process
* Contact information for further questions.

**Drop-in session – Thursday 20 February**

We understand you’ll have a lot of questions about these proposals, so we’d like to invite you to attend a drop-in session on **Thursday 20 February from 4pm to 6pm in the Four Courts Community Centre.**

At the drop-in session we’ll have colleagues on hand from our housing, redevelopment and resettlement teams. They’ll be able to share further details and start to answer some of the questions you may have.

We’ll also have colleagues on site for the next few days if you’re unable to attend the drop-in session.

**Supporting you during this process:**

We’ll initially be focused on working with our Bevin Court residents to find them a suitable new home. However, we’d like to reassure you that you’ll be fully supported when it comes to your own move in the future.

To help you when you go through the moving process, we’ll:

* Cover all moving costs, so you don’t need to worry about expenses
* Provide a home loss payment of £8,100 to help you settle into your new home
* Appoint a dedicated resettlement officer who’ll work closely with you to understand your needs and preferences
* Take into account your preferred location when looking for your new home.

Our priority will be to ensure your move is as smooth and stress-free as possible for you.

 **Ensuring your safety**

Our number one priority remains keeping you safe in your home. All existing fire safety systems will stay in place within your block. Regular fire risk assessments will continue for as long as the building is occupied.

**Have your say**

The redevelopment is a great opportunity to create new, high-quality social homes that better serve the needs of residents. We’ll work closely with you to shape the future vision for the estate, ensuring the redevelopment reflects local needs.

There is a great deal of work involved in delivering a project of this size. The site is big enough to provide more social housing than the number of homes currently provided by the Four Courts. We’ve a project team in place led by myself (Lis Rodrigues, Director of Regeneration at Southern Housing). Other members of the project team will make themselves known to you over the next few weeks and months so you can discuss the future plans.

Work on-site is expected to begin in 2028. We’ll be holding engagement sessions in the coming months to gather input from residents and other stakeholders and shape the future plans for the site. We’ll share more information on these events in due course.

If you’ve any further questions and wish to talk to somebody from Southern Housing, we have set up a dedicated email account:

four.courts@southernhousing.org.uk

Alternatively you can call 0800 121 60 60 and ask to speak to a member of the local team. We’ll arrange for someone to get back to you. We’ve also set up a dedicated web page, which will include updated information: [www.southernhousing.org.uk/fourcourts](http://www.southernhousing.org.uk/fourcourts)

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work together.

Yours sincerely,



**Lis Rodrigues**
Director of Regeneration
Southern Housing