Origin Housing

How we listened and acted on resident feedback in 2022/23

30 March 2023







Residents said: We need greater staff visibility and connectedness to residents out on 'the patch'

- Introduced quarterly 'Neighbourhood Walkabouts' from August 2022 lead by the Neighbourhood Manager(NM) with residents invited to attend.
- ➤ In October 22 we 'reset' what it means to be a NM at Origin includes
- Being proactive rather than reactive
- Understands what is going on by 'walking and talking' in the Neighbourhood
- Takes a holistic view of the resident & their household 'joins the dots' and is professionally curious
- Builds relationships with third parties





Residents said: Listen and act on our feedback

- Relaunched Neighbourhood Action Plans as a way to address local issues where cross team working was needed. Resident Steering Groups to co-design solutions and monitor progress with the plan were introduced.
- Strengthened the way we work with Spotlight and building links between them and CSC/ Board so that the resident voice is amplified at Board level
- We are amplifying the lived experiences of residents across Origin .
- 70 staff listened to a panel discussion with residents on the topic of service with respect during Customer Service week in October.
- Residents were invited to attend & share their experiences at a Managers forum in May and the all staff conference in Sept featured direct quotes from residents voiced by actors.
- > Require Managers to use the feedback from complaints to feed into improvement plans
- Updated the Together Strategy to better reflect residents priorities





Residents said: Make it easy when we contact Origin

- Completed the centralisation of the Customer Relations (Complaints) Team recruiting and training to a higher level of skill so that we are better at responding when things go wrong
- Introduced a new approach to quality assurance in the Customer Resolutions Team to raise the quality of our call handling standards
- Introduced a 'call back' option on the telephony system and made other improvements to our CRM system
- Invested in training for the customer resolution advisors so they are able to handle more queries at the first point of contact and provide a better customer experience



Residents said: Help vulnerable residents or those who may be struggling

- Launched the 'support hub' in October as a new service to vulnerable residents in general needs housing with a focus on helping those with mental health issues and hoarding disorder
- Introduced a hardship fund for those struggling with the cost of living crisis





Residents said :Improve the repairs service and reduce delays

- Across both the Gilmartins contract and specialist contractors (eg lifts, door entry) we are providing better and more proactive resident communication when things are delayed
- Restructured the Property Maintenance Team to recruit staff with the right skills and knowledge to better manage the contract.
- Retendered the repairs contract using feedback from residents to shape the service specification and be involved in the tender evaluation
- Restructured the Compliance team to create capacity and recruit staff with the right skills to manage the specialist contracts



Communities:

Places that people are proud to be part of



Residents said: Improve the quality of homes & address damp and mould

- Reviewed our approach following the tragic death of Awaab Ishak in Rochdale to have a 'people' and 'property' focus
- > A new approach to aftercare and follow up
- Reviewed our communication and information for residents
- Awareness raising & training for staff



Communities:

Places that people are proud to be part of



Residents said :Improve the cleaning and gardening standards

Action taken:

Refocused Estate Inspections by our Estates Services Team leaders to pro-actively monitor and act on cleaning, grounds maintenance standards and identify communal repairs.



Communities:

Places that people are proud to be part of



Residents said : Address ASB and security concerns

- Set up a cross departmental security task group to look holistically at security issues and made recommendations on
- Strengthening partnership working with the Police and agencies that support Rough Sleepers.
- Working with the Police 'Design out Crime' to identify physical enhancements (eg new security doors)
- Contract management and response times for door entry and gate repairs
- Updating our ASB policy and providing training for NM's on legal remedies.

