

Creating sustainable communities with 'Routes to Work'

Featuring Joyce Mair, Andrea Docherty & customer Gus



Lynn Wassell, Chief Executive of the Clyde Valley Group

Everyone is currently experiencing very tough times during this pandemic and it's so important that we build partnerships that can help as the needs of our customers change. Our team already do fantastic work in partnership with other organisations and Routes to Work is an important example of this. As local people experience redundancy and reduction in hours as a result of Covid, it's essential that we look at ways to support employability within our communities. We need to support with good housing and also make that housing sustainable by supporting the career prospects of customers.

Andrea Docherty, Housing Officer, Clyde Valley Housing Association

"This is a new venture and partnership for us with 'Routes to Work'. We know there is an issue often with helping people with the confidence to start work. Our partnership helps us to work together to understand the individual needs of each customer and help them to stay in work or access new training. There are so many people on zero-hour contracts and given the current climate, offering them new options has been really important to help them to secure permanent jobs.

Routes to Work have been fantastic. They have met with our team and explained all the procedures to getting people back on track. We knew immediately from talking to them that there was scope to help whole households if we help at least one person in a property. Whether it's help filling in a CV; helping with training or looking at the wider health picture with some therapy, together we can offer a practical hand-up."

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Joyce Mair, Specialist Case Worker, Routes to Work, North Lanarkshire

"Everyone's action plan is very different and tailored to their needs. Supporting people to get into work or training can also mean helping with childcare provision for example. That's why looking at their housing needs through Clyde Valley works so well. If someone registers with us, it's a multi-agency approach to help them.

"Gus was referred to us by one of the Housing Officers at Clyde Valley. He had previously been a carer for his mother who lived in a Clyde Valley property. Unfortunately she passed away and Gus was looking for a help to get going again in employment. We've been able to help him with a range of training courses to improve his confidence and open up new job opportunities. These conversations have happened jointly with Clyde Valley so we can look at the whole picture for him to include housing and job opportunities. The Housing Officers were really supportive to reassure him he could keep his tenancy and that freed him up to work with us on looking at employment options. Learning's lifelong and taking a step back with partners such as Andrea at Clyde Valley can make all the difference."

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I just needed a hand to help find some training opportunities. It was a difficult time when my Mum passed away but it was reassuring that Clyde Valley and Routes to Work got together to help out. Money is tight and having the option to look at new careers has lifted my spirits and it's been great to get advice on my tenancy at the same time.

Gus, Clyde Valley customer & 'Routes to Work' Client

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