

## Give a Dog a Bone and an Animal

**a Home** is a charity linking up rescue centres to people who may be able to offer a dog or a cat a home throughout Scotland. Set up to support the over 60s afford a rescue pet, Viewpoint is proud to work together with this charity to facilitate animal adoptions and fostering. We are delighted to help match older people with older dogs and cats – a win-win scenario!



**The Virtual Dementia Tour Bus** has been part of our training programme for staff since 2016. We were the first housing association to bring the bus to Scotland and have used the bus to educate our staff and the wider community about the experiences some people have when diagnosed with dementia. In partnership with Napier University, nursing students have also been able to experience the tour.

For more information about any of these projects contact:

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Viewpoint Housing Association Limited  
Scottish Charity No SC005619

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Widely recognised as a quality provider of housing and care, at Viewpoint we continue to design services that go beyond the traditional expectations of a housing provider.

Creativity is one of our values and at the heart of our work. Thinking of different ways of doing things while ensuring we always meet the needs and aspirations of older people, is what we do best. Here are some examples of this work.

Since introducing wifi to our housing complexes, helping everyone to get online and promoting social inclusion has been a priority for us. In partnership with Tap into IT, we offer



**Weekly Computer Clubs** for tenants in sheltered housing. Powered by an amazing volunteer team, classes are provided free of charge to tenants. The clubs help users to stay online and continue to benefit beyond the initial beginner training. Now in their fifth year, the clubs also promote social interaction and fun for all participants.

From 2017 Viewpoint's unique **Care at Home Service** will introduce care and support for our existing sheltered housing tenants. Our Community Support Workers will work with tenants to develop care and support plans and assist them with personal care, house work, shopping and getting out and about for appointments. Unlike traditional services, they will also oversee housing support plans, carry out health and safety checks at the complexes, liaise with social workers, GPs and the Housing Benefit office, amongst others.

This service will ensure consistency of staff and a person centred, holistic, approach to individuals' needs.



In 2016 we were delighted to be awarded a grant of £22,000 from the Edinburgh & Lothians Health Foundation to set up **Edinburgh's first Health Hub** within Croft an Righ, our sheltered housing complex at Abbeyhill. The Hub will allow frail older people to have their routine health checks carried out within the complex, in private, with the support of a Coordinator. The aim is to free up GP surgery appointments, lead to less GP call outs and emergency admissions to hospital. This will be possible by monitoring long term conditions with new technology. Any recorded change in someone's health is recognised by surgery staff and tenants will be contacted by their GP to have the opportunity to have a video consultation.



New for 2017, we will take part in a pilot project running in parallel with one being carried out by City of Edinburgh Council to participate in a discreet monitoring service between individuals and their families. **Live!y** provides peace of mind to families of those who may not yet have care needs but who may be causing concern for relatives. The system is simple and can monitor whether their family member is eating, drinking, getting out and about and taking prescribed medications at the designated times. The fashionable sports watch provided and suitably placed sensors send signals to a home based hub. This allows families to log-in to a dash-board and monitor patterns of behaviour from afar, much like a fitbit via the internet.

