Co-operative **Housing Ireland News**

Autumn 2026



2026 Art & Garden Competition

Street Feast **2026**

Community Champion Award 2026: **Call for Nominations**

The Community Fund in Action

Co-operative housing Ireland

Dear Member,

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of Co-operative Housing Ireland News

This edition is full of stories showing what can happen when neighbours come together, share ideas and get involved in their communities.

You'll read about Street Feast celebrations in Altidore Gardens and An Corrán, gardening projects in Coolcotts, Westcourt, Cardy Rock Court and Parslickstown Court, and the creativity on display at our 2026 Art & Garden Competition. These stories are a great reflection of the time, energy and enthusiasm Member Tenants bring to communities across the country.

We also have updates on the Community Fund, along with important information from our Income and Financial Inclusion and Safer Neighbourhoods teams to help you stay informed about your home and the supports available to you.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in an event, shared an idea, supported a neighbour or helped make their community a better place to live. Your involvement makes a real difference.

If you have a story you would like to share, we would love to hear from you at communications@cooperativehousing.ie.

I hope you enjoy this edition.

We hope you enjoy this edition.

The Team at Co-operative Housing Ireland

Pictured on the cover: Lexi Kelly, Altidore Gardens, Co. Wicklow

Community News

Celebrating the Launch of the Crofters Quarter Mural

On Saturday, the 8 August, we proudly celebrated the launch of the new Crofters Quarter mural, a beautiful piece of artwork inspired by the children and young people of Crofters Quarter and brought to life by a talented artist.



The day was a fantastic success. With the sun shining brightly, there was a great atmosphere throughout the community as residents, families and friends came together to mark this special occasion. Everyone enjoyed delicious pizza, fun games, great music, and the opportunity to see the mural unveiled.

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event. The turnout was incredible and helped make the day one to remember.







This project has been over a year and a half in the making and has involved many enjoyable activities and opportunities for community participation. Throughout the journey, we worked with Eve and the local library to gather wishes, hopes, and ideas from children and residents. We also held art workshops and creative sessions that encouraged young people to share their thoughts and experiences, helping to shape the vision behind the mural.

The finished artwork is a wonderful reflection of the voices, creativity and aspirations of the children of Crofters Quarter and will serve as a lasting reminder of what can be achieved when a community comes together.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this project from the very beginning. We look forward to many more community events and opportunities to celebrate together in the future.





Westcourt **in Bloom!**

Residents came together for a fantastic garden workshop in Westcourt, planting three new planters kindly donated by Gareth, their Neighbourhood Specialist. It was great to see people of all ages getting involved and helping to add colour and vibrancy to the estate. The planters are a lovely addition to the improvements made last year and have transformed the space into an even brighter and more attractive area for the community.



Welcome to Our New Members' Associations

A warm welcome and congratulations to all the newly formed Members' Associations. A huge well done to everyone involved for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to their communities. It is fantastic to see so many passionate residents stepping forward to help create a stronger sense of belonging, connection, and community spirit in their neighbourhoods.

- Cherry Orchard
- Mountain Gate
- Townsend Street
- First Lock

If you are interested in setting up a Members' Association in your area, we would love to hear from you. Please contact **members@cooperativehousing.ie** to find out more about how to get involved and make a difference in your community.

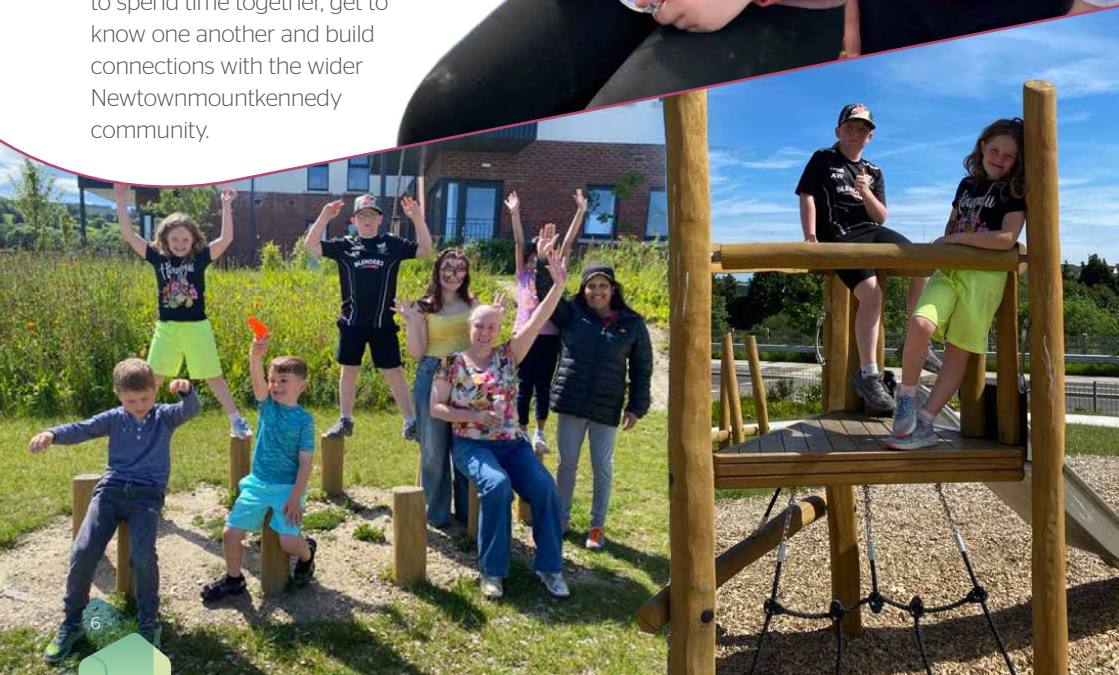
Street Feast 2026

Altidore Gardens

Member Tenants at Altidore Gardens in Newtownmountkennedy came together for their own Street Feast, organised by Member Tenant Josephine with support from the Community Fund and help from her neighbours.

Josephine said, "The ethos behind Street Feast is to create an inclusive setting for people to connect and build community spirit and as a brand-new estate the Street Feast was my way of linking Altidore Gardens with the town and as a new community connecting us together."

There was plenty to enjoy on the day, including games, face painting, homemade treats and ice cream. The event gave neighbours a chance to spend time together, get to know one another and build connections with the wider Newtownmountkennedy community.





An Corrán

Residents at An Corrán in Crinkle, Birr, also held their own Street Feast celebration. The estate is home to Co-operative Housing Ireland Member Tenants, private renters and owner occupiers, making the event a great opportunity for neighbours to come together, some for the first time.

Families all played a part, contributing food, taking charge of the barbecue and helping with the celebrations. The children got involved too, icing buns and serving drinks.

New friendships were made, plenty of fun was had and, thankfully, the weather held up!







Connecting Neighbours **in Coolcotts**

Member Tenants in Coolcotts recently got involved in a community project focused on meeting their neighbours, learning new skills and enhancing their estate.



Working with their Community Engagement Specialist, Member Tenants shared their ideas at a series of workshops and developed a plan to bring people together. The group decided to focus on building a community of gardeners and organising a summer party, giving neighbours a chance to connect while providing some much needed entertainment for children during the school holidays.

In June, eight Member Tenants took part in gardening workshops led by a trained horticulturist. Participants learned practical skills including planting for biodiversity, pruning, watering and garden design. They then put their learning into practice by planting four new planters throughout the estate and forming a new gardening community.

The project culminated in a Summer Estate Party in July, featuring a reptile zoo, children's entertainment, face painting, an ice cream van, food and refreshments. The event brought neighbours together and gave local children something new and different to enjoy over the summer.





The Residents Association said, "It's been a summer of learning and fun for everyone. Most can say they have gained new knowledge and new friends because of this project."

Feedback from Member Tenants who attended was overwhelmingly positive, with many saying they would love to see a similar event take place every year.



Community Fund

The Community Fund in Action

Do you have an idea to bring your community together or improve your estate? The Co-operative Housing Ireland Community Fund supports Member Tenants to deliver local projects, from community events and activities to enhancements of shared or green spaces.



Newtown Court Neighbours Day

The fund is open to Member Associations, as well as individuals or groups of Member Tenants where no association exists. Support is available from the Community Engagement Team throughout the process.

We also encourage you to speak with your neighbours, gather their ideas and build support for your proposal before applying.



St Mary's Court

Remember to submit your application 8-12 weeks in advance of your project or event.

The Community Fund 2026 will close for applications on Friday, 9th October.

All applications for Christmas events must be submitted by this date. Late applications will not be considered.

The guidelines for this can be found in the **Member Tenant area** of the Co-operative Housing Ireland website under **Community Engagement Resources**.



Halliday Mills

Alternatively, you can scan the QR code below to review the guidelines.

If you would like to explore how your community can get involved, please email **members@cooperativehousing.ie** to contact your Community Engagement Specialist.



Pinewood Green Court

Awards

2026 Gardening and Art Competitions

The 2026 Art & Garden Competition Awards Ceremony was held at the Midlands Park Hotel in Portlaoise on Saturday, 22 August, bringing together entrants from across the country to celebrate this year's winners and runners up.

The gardening competition received 37 entries, with 12 shortlisted across four categories: Best Flower Garden, Best Food Garden, Best Hanging Basket / Container and Best Use of Small Space.

This year's art competition invited Member Tenants to explore the theme "Home is...". Members of all ages took part, submitting a wonderful range of creative and beautifully crafted artworks.

Thank you to everyone who entered this year's competitions and congratulations to all our winners and runners-up, who received awards and gift vouchers on the day.

Gardening Competition

Congratulations to our winners

Best Flower Garden

- **Winner:** Melissa and Declan Fitzgerald
  Baunaclocka Heights, Limerick
- **1st Runner-Up:** Peter Ward
  Newtown Court, Dublin
- **2nd Runner-Up:** Gerry and Anne Malone
  The Rectory, Wicklow

Best Use of Small Space

- **Winner:** Ewelina Grudnicka
  Baunaclocka Heights, Limerick
- **1st Runner-Up:** Halle Kelly
  Newtown Court, Dublin
- **2nd Runner-Up:** Maruta Kaire
  Townsend Street, Dublin

Best Food Garden

- **Winner:** Nikki Carney
  Hunters Green, Wexford
- **1st Runner-Up:** Rory O'Brien
  Cronin's Wood, Kerry
- **2nd Runner-Up:** Damien O'Connor
  Drinagh Park, Dublin

Best Hanging Basket / Container

- **Winner:** Kenneth Butler and Sara Cooper
  The Maples, Kerry
- **1st Runner-Up:** Ewelina Grudnicka
  Baunaclocka Heights, Limerick
- **2nd Runner-Up:** Sadie Keogh
  Amharc Muileann, Limerick

Gardening Legacy Award
Dick Brady
Tallaght, Dublin











Winners and runners-up in Co-operative Housing Ireland's Art and Garden Awards at the Awards Ceremony in Portlaoise.

Art Competition

Under 18s Art Competition



Winner: Coraline by Katie Quinlivan
Amharc Muileann, Limerick



1st Runner-Up: Sunshine by Rhea O'Neill
Gleann Cora, Co. Clare

Art Competition



Winner: *Getting Teeth Brushed Before Bed* by Geraldine Martin
Halliday Mills, Louth



1st Runner-Up: Pencil drawings by
Norma O'Sullivan
Cooline Crest, Co. Cork

2nd Runner-Up:
Kingfisher by
Elaine Carey
Moinear Ros
Leamhan, Co. Clare





Community Champion Award 2026 –

Call for Nominations

Do you know anyone who lives in your estate that is passionate about helping others? Do they help your neighbours or someone in your community? Are they giving up their free time to a good cause that helps individuals or groups? Then you can nominate them for the Co-operative Housing Ireland Community Champion Awards!

We want to recognise and celebrate the amazing work done by individuals, young people and groups across our communities over the last year. We are therefore launching our Community Champions Awards for 2026.

Who can you nominate?

Anyone who is a Member Tenant or living in a Co-operative Housing Ireland home can be nominated as a group or individual. You cannot nominate yourself.

What are the categories?

Community Champion Award
Awarded to an individual over the age of 25 who makes a difference by giving up their time to support their neighbours and local community.

Group Champion Award
Awarded to a committee or group of people who make a difference by giving up their time to support their neighbours and local community.

Young Community Champion Award
Awarded to someone aged 25 or under who makes a difference by giving up their time to support their neighbours and local community.

How to nominate?

You can nominate an individual or group by completing our **Online Fill out Nomination Form**

Or by scanning the QR code.

Please contact **members@cooperativehousing.ie** with any queries.

Ask the individual or group you are nominating for their consent before completing the form.

Nominations will open on **Monday 21st September** and close **Friday 30th October**. No more nominations will be accepted after this date.

Prizes to be announced at a future date. Winners will be announced in December 2026.

Cardy Rock Court and Parslickstown Court: Community Development

Earlier this year, the Community Engagement team spoke with Members in Cardy Rock Court, Balbriggan, and Parslickstown Court, Mulhuddart, about what they would like to see improved on their estates.

Working with the Community Engagement team, both estates chose to focus on garden projects, rejuvenating their surroundings and bringing more colour to the areas around their homes.

Cardy Rock Court

At Cardy Rock Court, the flower beds on either side of the entrance door were replanted and finished with a bark overlay. Members even discovered a mint bush growing quite literally on their doorstep!



Parslickstown Court





Before



After

At Parslickstown Court, the communal garden space between the apartment blocks was transformed. Invasive species were removed and the area was replanted with biodiversity in mind. Members also took part in a planting workshop to learn more about the importance of biodiversity, before celebrating their hard work with an ice cream on the day.

Housing

Welcome to Our New Member Tenants!

As of June 2026, over 650 homes have been let by Co-operative Housing Ireland across the country. A very warm welcome to all our new Member Tenants as you settle into your homes and communities over the coming months and years.



Josephine McDonald with her daughters Daisy and Abbey, Altidore Gardens, Co. Wicklow



Estate Management **and Fire Safety**

Keeping our estates clean, safe, and well looked after is a key priority for us, and we know it matters to you, too. If you are interested in taking part in an **estate walkabout**, we encourage you to contact your Neighbourhood Specialist. These walkabouts can take place during our monthly estate visits and provide a great opportunity to engage with staff and fellow residents.

Improving the management and upkeep of common areas remains an important focus for Co-operative Housing Ireland. As part of our ongoing development, we

recently asked residents for their views on our grounds maintenance service. We would like to thank everyone who participated in the survey. Your feedback provides valuable insights that will help us enhance our services.



Reminder:

As always, if you have any concerns relating to estate management or fire safety, please contact your Neighbourhood Specialist.

Neighbourhood Team Performance Indicators 2026 (Lettings times are compiled quarterly by our partner AHBs and the Housing Agency)	**2026 Target**	**2026 Year to date figure**	**Target Achieved Yes/No**
Time taken for Co-operative Housing Ireland to re-let existing empty homes after receiving a nomination from the local authority	40 Days	31 Days	GREEN
Time taken for Co-operative Housing Ireland to let new homes after receiving a nomination from the local authority	25 Days	40 Days	AMBER
Empty Homes as a Percentage of stock	Keep below 5%	3.35%	GREEN
Percentage of Estate Inspections Completed	95%	99%	GREEN
Satisfaction with Lettings Service	95%	99%	GREEN
Satisfaction with Complaint Handling	75%	56%	AMBER

Traffic Light Key

- **Green** = Target met or exceeded
- **Amber** = Marginally off target
- **Red** = Far off target

In 2025 we closed 200 tenancy queries from Member Tenants. Topics included abandoned cars, neglected gardens and concerns about restricted dog breeds.

Safer Neighbourhoods



We're Here **to Help**

The Safer Neighbourhoods Team relies on Member Tenants to report incidents of anti-social behaviour. We can only help to address an issue if we are aware that it is happening, so please report incidents as soon as possible and provide as much detail as you can. All complaints are treated confidentially.

Your Feedback

After an anti-social behaviour (ASB) case has been closed, we try to contact as many people involved as possible to gather feedback on the service they received.

We are very grateful for this feedback, as it helps us understand what we are doing well and where we can improve.

Your Ideas!

As the people living in our communities, you may notice particular times of the year when nuisance or anti-social behaviour increases. If so, please let us know, along with any ideas you may have to help prevent or reduce these issues.

We can then work with colleagues and other relevant organisations to explore what measures could be put in place.

Performance Figures

Our team is constantly working to improve and provide Member Tenants with the best support possible. The figures below show our latest progress.

Income and Rent	2026 Target	2026 Year to date	Target Achieved Yes/No
Arrears as Percentage of debit	2.5%	1.95%	GREEN
Arrears as Percentage of debit (rolling 12 month figure from most recent month)	2.5%	2.07%	GREEN
Percentage of ASB cases which are closed being resolved	90%	98% Resolved	GREEN
Satisfaction with ASB case handling	90%	97%	GREEN
Satisfaction with ASB case outcome	80%	88%	GREEN

In Their Shoes Training

A member of our Safer Neighbourhoods Team recently took part in ***In Their Shoes*** training with the ***DkIT RiVeR Project***. The training helps our team better understand the experiences of people affected by domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and how they can best be supported.



Safer Neighbourhoods Specialist Ailbhe McManmon with Dr Kathleen Nallen, Project Lead, DKIT River Project

Contact Us:

sns@cooperativehousing.ie
01 6403074



Annual Rent Assessment

2026 Update

Our annual rent assessments have now been completed. If you have not yet returned your rent assessment information, please contact your Income Specialist as soon as possible to discuss your account.

Remember, it is important to let us know immediately if your income changes at any time during the year—not just during the annual rent review. If your income increases and this is not reported, your rent may be backdated, which could lead to rent arrears. Equally, if your income decreases, please contact us straight away so we can review your rent and ensure it reflects your current circumstances.

If you are experiencing difficulties paying your rent, please get in touch with your Income Specialist as early as possible by emailing **rentreview@cooperativehousing.ie**.

Getting in touch early gives us the opportunity to work with you and explore the supports available. You may also wish to seek independent advice from organisations such as MABS, the Money Advice and Budgeting Service, or St. Vincent de Paul, who can provide assistance with financial challenges.

Service Charge Review

(This is only for estates where service charges are in place)



In August 2026 we wrote to households to update you on the change to our service charge calculation which will take affect in July 2027 with your next rent review.

Why is Co-operative Housing Ireland making this change?

Following a review of service charges across our estates, we found that service charges have not historically been reviewed in a consistent way. In many developments, charges have not reflected the actual cost of providing waste management services and, over a number of years, Co-operative Housing Ireland has absorbed increases in these costs.

To ensure that service charges are fair, transparent and applied consistently across all developments, we will introduce a revised method of calculating service charges from 2027.

The letter received in August will outline the important information, however, please do reach out to Co-operative Housing Ireland if you have any queries by contacting us on 01-6403074 or emailing **info@cooperativehousing.ie**

Please note this change will affect our member tenants where service charges apply.

Complaints and Feedback



How to Share Complaints, Suggestions and Compliments

Help us to provide the best service to our Member Tenants by sharing a complaint, suggestion, or compliment by email to **complaints@cooperativehousing.ie.**

What Happens After You Contact Us

When you contact us with a complaint, suggestion or compliment, we will:

- acknowledge your message
- review the issue fairly
- keep you informed about what happens next

Our aim is to resolve issues as quickly and fairly as possible.

Please note, we do **not** treat the following as complaints:

- Anti-social behaviour (covered under our antisocial behaviour policy)
- Repairs (covered under our repairs policy)
- Services not provided by Co-operative Housing Ireland (e.g., bin collections)

Privacy & Data Reassurance

Your Information

We take your privacy seriously. Any personal information you share with us is handled carefully and used only to provide services and support.

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Safer Neighbourhood Team – Confidential Support

The Safer Neighbourhood Team handles anti-social behaviour reports confidentially.

If something isn't reported, we can't act - so please let us know if you have concerns.

If you are experiencing domestic abuse or feel unsafe, support is available. You can contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team in confidence, and we can help signpost you to local support services.

In an Emergency

If there is immediate danger to life or property, contact the emergency services first. Then let Co-operative Housing Ireland know as soon as it is safe to do so.

How to Report Anti-Social Behaviour

Help Us to Help You

We expect everyone living in Co-operative Housing Ireland homes to treat neighbours and staff with respect. Discrimination, harassment or intimidation is not acceptable. If you notice anti-social behaviour in your estate, let the Safer Neighbourhood Team know. We cannot act if we don't know what's happening. When reporting, please include dates and times if possible.

You can contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team confidentially. We can listen, offer support and help signpost you to local services.

Contact Us:

- **sns@cooperativehousing.ie**

Examples of Anti-Social Behaviour:

- Criminal activity
- Harassment or intimidation
- Threatening behaviour
- Domestic abuse
- Drug misuse or drug dealing
- Excessive noise or parties
- Vandalism or property damage

If a crime is happening, contact the Gardaí immediately and let the Safer Neighbourhood Team know. Don't assume a neighbour will call.

Have You Changed Your Number or Email? Let Us Know!

Call or email the Member Services Hub to inform them that your contact details have changed. This ensures you're staying connected with our team.

Have a Question?

Visit our FAQ page

Or Contact Our Member Services Hub:

- **01 640 3074**
- **info@cooperativehousing.ie**

About the Newsletter

The Member Tenant newsletter is released four times a year. We send each Member Tenant a paper copy in the post as well as a digital copy to your email.



Scan the QR Code to Share Your Thoughts!

If you'd like to opt out of receiving the newsletter or update your email address, please email **communications@cooperativehousing.ie** with your name, address, and a short message.

Tell Us What You Think

This newsletter is for you, so we want to know what you'd like to see in it.

Have a Story or an Opinion?

Get in Touch!

communications@cooperativehousing.ie

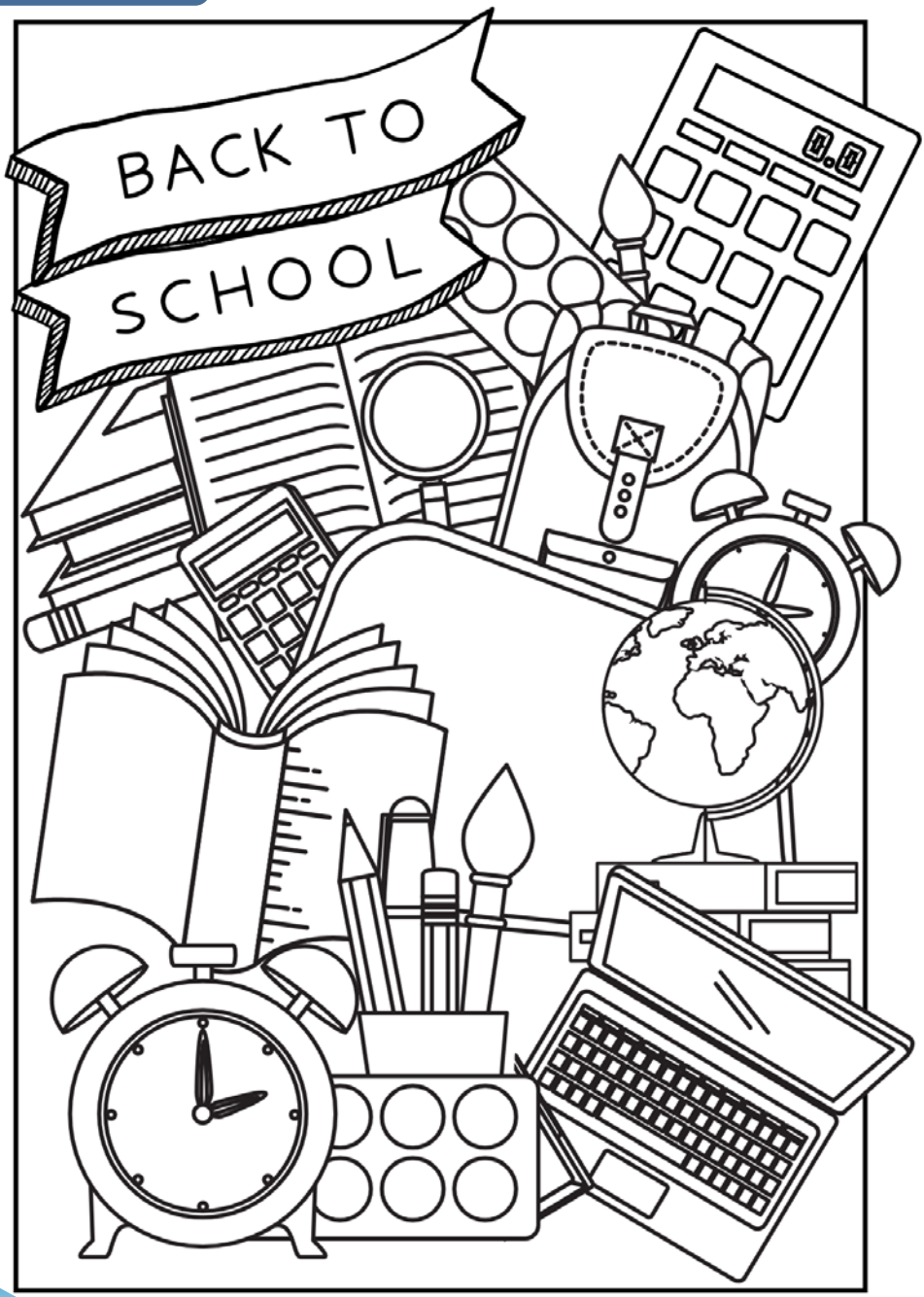
WhatsApp / Call Erin: 086 836 1532



Communications in Co-operative Housing:

- The Communications Team shares important updates with Member Tenants, including letters, newsletters, surveys and service information.
- We work to make sure information is clear, accessible and easy to understand.

Kid's Corner



We'd love to see your art!

For a chance to feature on our social channels, please send your Kid's Corner artwork to:

Co-operative Housing Ireland, 11/12 Warrington Pl, Dublin 2, D02 E221, Ireland

Alternatively, you can also send a clear photo of your masterpiece to the Communications Team at **communications@cooperativehousing.ie.**

Who to Contact

Repairs

Report repairs through the **Member Services Hub**

- 01 640 3074
- repairs@cooperativehousing.ie

Rent or Payments

For rent queries, payments, or if you are struggling to pay, contact the **Income Team**

- 01 640 3074
- rentreview@cooperativehousing.ie

Estate or Neighbourhood Issues

For issues affecting your estate or shared areas, contact your **Neighbourhood Specialist**

- 01 640 3074 (Member Services Hub can direct your query)

Anti-Social Behaviour

To report concerns confidentially, contact the **Safer Neighbourhood Team**

- 01 640 3074
- sns@cooperativehousing.ie

Complaints, Suggestions or Compliments

- complaints@cooperativehousing.ie

General Questions or If You're Unsure

If you're not sure who to contact, the **Member Services Hub** can help direct your query

- 01 640 3074
- info@cooperativehousing.ie

Not Online?

If you don't use email or online services, you can access all services by phone. Call the Member Services Hub on 01 640 3074 and the team will help.

Tel: 01 640 3074
Email: info@cooperativehousing.ie
www.cooperativehousing.ie

Co-operative housing Ireland

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