

Dermot's Story...

Dermot is a 65 year old man living with rheumatoid arthritis, after a number of health issues requiring treatment from both primary and acute services he was referred to GCIL's Better at Home Service. Following an initial assessment, he was found to have been lodging in one room of a boarding house in the east end of Glasgow since 2010. Due to his arthritis and failing mobility, he was finding it increasingly difficult and painful to access the communal shower facilities which were upstairs. Dermot was using his mobility scooter to go to the local swimming baths to use the accessible shower facilities there.

Although he did have access to a shared toilet and kitchen he struggled to walk more than the few steps along a corridor to reach his destination without aide or assistance.



His reduced mobility meant that he was also restricted in being able to go out, shopping, socialising etc, He felt increasingly more isolated and lonely, confined to living in one room. Although he could be described as

a frail and vulnerable man physically, he is an outgoing social man who said that he needs the company and conversation of others.



After an assessment of his housing options by GCIL a number of sheltered housing applications were completed and sent to various housing associations in the east end of Glasgow, his preferred location because he had friends in the area.

In August 2015 Dermot was offered sheltered housing accommodation within a complex in the east end of Glasgow. The flat consisted of 2 bedrooms, living room, separate kitchen and bathroom and was unfurnished. Trust Housing would adapt the bathroom within the next few weeks to contain a walk in shower. The flat itself was spacious with plenty of storage for his wheelchair and scooter and he had access also to a communal sitting room and laundry if required. GCIL also helped Dermot with a Scottish Welfare Fund Application for some basic furniture and white goods such as a bed, chairs, wardrobe, cooker and fridge.

Within the weeks that followed, Dermot spent his time making his house a home and generally settling in. He now has neighbours that he can chat too and daily eats at his local café, yards from his front door, giving

him company as well as having a hot meal. The café staff also make him a cooked evening meal that he can reheat in the microwave and generally keep a neighbourly eye on him.



Dermot now has a home that he is proud and happy to be in and lives in a community that he feels part of and although his health remains frail, he thrives on the choices he now has and the difference it's made to his life.

Dermot enjoying the sun in his new home, armed with his keys ready to live life to the full and pictured with GCIL Housing staff member Michelle McNamara who assisted Dermot to find more suitable housing..



For more information on GCIL Housing, Better At Home (for over 65's) and Home2Fit – Scotland's Accessible Housing Register contact:

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www.gcil.org.uk Glasgow Centre for Inclusive Living

www.Home2Fit.org.uk for people looking for

more accessible homes or to let or sell an adapted property

www.Adapt2Fit.org.uk for people looking for information on independent living aids and equipment