

# VETERANS HOUSING SCOTLAND

Building Lives • Building Communities



Remembering the past,  
looking to the future.

# Message from the Chairman



Veterans and their families deserve access to affordable and suitably adapted homes and to lead independent, healthy and active lives in a safe and secure environment. They should also be well-connected to the considerable support network that is in place throughout Scotland.

That is our vision and we are working tirelessly to deliver it.

As the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Veterans Housing Scotland I am well supported by a committed team of professional men and women who bring advice and guidance that is appropriate and relevant. Together we ensure that we are continuing to put veterans and their families first.

Bob Kemp CBE QVRM AE DL



# Where it began



**From humble beginnings during the First World War providing homes for those returning to a land fit for heroes, we continue today to deliver homes for those who have served their country in our Armed Forces.**

The Veteran's Dream of returning from war, injured, dejected and broken to a better life was just that – a dream.

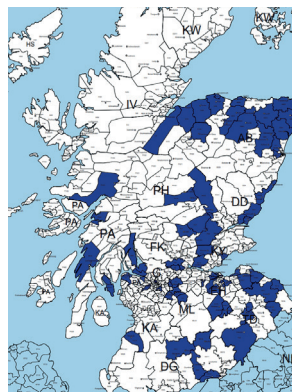


So, from these early days of a group of cottages with gardens set in small communities, with its own Village Hall, Piggery and



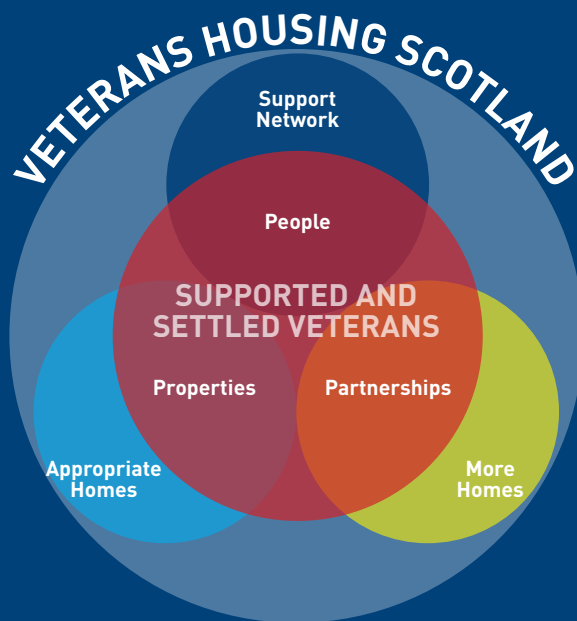
a basket weaving facility we now provide over 650 homes for Heroes across Scotland.

The original concept of a community within a community remains but Veterans of today are generally younger than those of yesteryear and many, although disabled, need a job. So the location of our houses is important, close to lines of communication and centres of employment.



# Progress

The Scottish Veterans' Garden City Charity when established in 1915 was formed of both an Association and a Society. Each had its own Board and much of the administration and tenant contact was carried out by teams of locally recruited volunteers.



Following a Strategic Review in 2016 the decision was made to restructure and reshape our services that better meet the needs of our veterans.

As a result, in 2020 the activities and governance of the Association and the Society were merged under a new operating name - Veterans Housing Scotland.

With a focus on People, Properties and Partnerships our new approach will help to better meet the need of our Veterans.

Disabled veterans and their families remain at the forefront of our business and our aim will always be to provide the best homes in the right locations and at affordable rents.



# Looking Forward

Our aim is to ensure Veterans and their families have access to affordable and appropriate homes, lead independent, healthy, and active lives in secure and positive environments.

Provide	More homes
Improve	Existing homes
Collaborate	To ensure our veterans are supported and settled and have access to a Scotland wide support network
Influence	Raise the profile of, and influence, housing matters affecting veterans
Inform	Ensure veterans and their families know where to turn to when in need



# People, Property and Partnerships - how you can help

**We are devoted to supporting our people, increasing and improving our properties and nurturing partnerships to better meet the needs of veterans and their families.**

Volunteers play a critical part in supporting our people and providing a Scotland-wide support network, so please get in touch if you have some free time and would like to volunteer with us.

We currently have 653 homes throughout Scotland and intend to provide more, so we are looking for partnerships that explore unique ways of delivering more homes.

We are also looking at ways to reduce the cost of maintaining our homes through partnerships with providers of significant items such as bathrooms, kitchens, roofing, heating and general maintenance.

If you'd like to learn more about how you can get involved please contact us directly by emailing [admin@vhscot.org.uk](mailto:admin@vhscot.org.uk)



# Our Veterans



*"I am grateful to the support given and opportunity provided by Veterans Housing Scotland, the charity has really helped in improving our lives a lot, and given us a chance to build a decent future."*

**Hayden, Paisley**



*"I am so grateful to both Veterans Housing Scotland and East Lothian Council for giving me this opportunity, this is so much more than a new home, it is a new start. Thank you to everyone concerned."*

**Sam, Cockenzie**



*"I feel part of a wider family with the communication and support from Veterans Housing Scotland, and really appreciate them keeping in touch and offering advice and updates as necessary."*

**Daniel, Carnoustie**



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