

Central Region Network Committee – 13 October 2011

Minute Number 23

Venue Highlander House Glasgow

Present

Hugh McClung (Chair)	Stirling Tenants Assembly
Therese Mullen	LOBS T&R Association
Danny Mullen	LOBS T&R Association
Rae Christie	Gaberston T&R Association
Evelyn White	Gaberston T&R Association
Geoff Morgan	Breton & Corentin Court Residents Association
Helen Forrest	Clackmannanshire T&R Federation

In Attendance

Susan McLellan	Tenant Priorities Team
Ian Spence	Charter Team

Apologies

Susan Robertson	Delphwood T&R Association
Moira Robertson	Strathfillan Housing Group
Alex Lamb	Stirling Tenants assembly

Item	Subject Matter	Action
1.	Welcome Hugh gave a warm welcome to everyone for their attendance. He also welcomed Ian Spence who was very keen to hear committee's views regarding the Scottish Housing Charter Consultation.	
2. 2.1	Minute of Previous Meeting Minute of meeting held on 2 August 2011 was approved on a motion by Rae Christie seconded by Therese Mullen.	
3. 3.1	Matters Arising Regional Networks National Event – Hugh informed members he had to leave the event at lunchtime due to work commitments. He expressed the view that the Minister could have been more decisive and informative in his response to questions on housing investment and guidance on housing revenue accounts disposals and transfers between Local Authority HRA and General Fund. Therese also expressed the view that it was inappropriate not to have allowed the opportunity for members to challenge the Minister's responses. Members noted the contribution of Kay Blair (Chair of Scottish Housing Regulator) outlining the new approach to regulation in Scotland. Kay had reassured members that tenant involvement was crucial to making the new regulatory regime work. Danny was of the view that despite the shortfalls in the plenary session, the day had gone extremely well with good discussions in the workshops and time built in for networking.	
3.2	Ministerial Meeting - Susan McLellan advised members that following from the Chairs and Secretaries request for a meeting	

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3.3	<p>the Minister agreed to meet with the Network Chairs.</p> <p>Central Region Newsletter – Danny informed members that the time to issue a formal newsletter is too short to allow RTO members enough time to respond to the Charter Consultation. He proposed that a short e-newsletter be produced and forwarded to those RTO members who could receive e-mails. Members agreed to proceed in this way.</p>	Danny
4. 4.1	<p>Chairs & Secretaries Meeting</p> <p>Hugh gave a verbal report on the issues and discussions raised at the meeting. It was hoped that all regions would take the opportunity to respond to the government’s Charter consultation. To encourage responses from all stakeholders the government has organised a number of consultation events throughout Scotland. Region 2 is seeking information from all regions regarding landlords’ service charge policies.</p>	
5. 5.1	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>Helen updated members on current balance: £709.05</p>	
6. 6.1	<p>Scottish Social Housing Charter Discussion</p> <p>After discussing all Charter Outcomes members agreed the following points for inclusion in Central Region’s Charter response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome re tenants involvement in self-assessments • Outcome on ‘tenant’s right to repair’ • Outcome on homeless person’s right to present and be assessed • Charter can be condensed into fewer Outcomes but must retain all the elements • Use of language in the Draft is somewhat ambiguous • Replace ‘can’ and ‘satisfied’ wording in Outcomes • Include Outcome re Gypsies/Travellers rights to be consulted re site maintenance, rents, services etc • Remove subjective Outcome re ‘pride’ in where they live • Emphasise importance of landlord responsibility to encourage, involve, consult etc • Emphasise the patchiness of TP development since 2001 Act 	Danny
7. 7.1	<p>Other Business</p> <p>No further items of business were discussed</p>	
8. 8.1	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>That being all the business the Chair closed the meeting. Next meeting would be held in Highlander House Glasgow on Tuesday 15th November 2011 at 11am.</p>	