

# Federation Matters

## March 2018

### We need your feedback! Annual Surveys

Member Groups and individuals who have attended an ETF event in the last year will have received a survey asking for your (or your group's) views on how ETF has performed over the last twelve months. The survey and your feedback is very important to ETF because it helps us to plan the future work of your Federation. The Federation's work is funded by the City of Edinburgh Council through a Service Level Agreement and we seek your views on an annual basis as part of monitoring and evaluation. We would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes filling it in and returning it to us using the supplied Freepost envelope or complete online via our website at [www.edinburghtenants.org.uk](http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk), our new deadline date is **Friday 30th March 2018**. Remember by completing the survey you could **win a £25 shopping voucher**.

### Regulation of Social Housing in Scotland Consultation

The Scottish Housing Regulator has launched a consultation paper about how best to use the new regulatory framework for social housing in Scotland. ETF will be holding an event for tenants on **Tuesday 13th March 2018, 6.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park, 57 Albion Road**. For bookings contact the Federation Office on 0131 475 2509, email [info@edinburghtenants.org.uk](mailto:info@edinburghtenants.org.uk) or book online at [www.edinburghtenants.org.uk](http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk). The consultation runs to **Friday 30th March 2018**. If you wish to find out more about the consultation please contact the Scottish Housing Regulator on 0141 242 5642 or email [Discussion@scottishhousingregulator.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Discussion@scottishhousingregulator.gsi.gov.uk). ETF has produced a Briefing Paper about the Framework which is available on our website at [www.edinburghtenants.org.uk](http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk) or from the Federation office. Please contact [info@edinburghtenants.org.uk](mailto:info@edinburghtenants.org.uk) or call 0131 475 2509 for a copy.

### Inspiring Volunteer Achievement Awards 2018: Nominations Now Open

Is there an individual or even a group within your organisation that deserves an Inspiring Volunteer Award? If so, then why not consider nominating them for the 2018 Lord Provost's Inspiring Volunteer Achievement Award. Nominations are now invited for this year's awards and can be submitted online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8KSRZTD>. Alternatively you can download the application form at <http://www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk/home>. There is also an award for Housing/Tenant Participation Champion, so if you can think of someone who deserves this award then why not nominate them? Organisations are able to nominate up to three individual volunteers and one team of volunteers. All nominated volunteers will receive a certificate either in person at the City Chambers or in the post. Nominations will close on **Sunday 18 March 2018 at 10.00pm**. For more information please contact Tyler Norrie at Volunteer Edinburgh by calling 0131 225 0630 or email [events@volunteeredinburgh.org.uk](mailto:events@volunteeredinburgh.org.uk).

### Website Polls

As part of our review of ETF's website, we will shortly be introducing polls on a variety of subjects connected to housing. So if you think of any possible questions or topics that you would like to see included, please contact the Federation offices on 0131 475 2509 or email [craig.burns@edinburghtenants.org.uk](mailto:craig.burns@edinburghtenants.org.uk).

### ETF Learning Session: Tenant Participation – Back to Basics

On **Tuesday 10th April 2018 from 5.30pm-9.00pm at Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road** we will be holding a learning session involving tenant participation on 'Back to Basics'.

'Tenant Participation' is not a new phrase. Since the Housing Act 2001, it has been a legal responsibility of all social landlords. But having the confidence to know your rights and use them does not always come from reading a law book; it comes with practice. This workshop is built to take you through what tenant participation in practice means so you can leave with confidence about its basic principles as well as your rights and your landlord's responsibilities. Other upcoming training sessions include: **Finding Your Voice (Public Speaking), Balancing the Books (Finance training) and Consensus Decision making**, please see enclosed leaflet for full details of these training sessions. For bookings contact the Federation Office on 0131 475 2509, email [info@edinburghtenants.org.uk](mailto:info@edinburghtenants.org.uk) or book online at [www.edinburghtenants.org.uk](http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk). Housing Association tenants are required to pay a nominal fee, please contact your landlord before booking a place. **Places must be booked in advance.**

## ETF Blog: Snow Days Rock and Roll!

During the snowy week when Scotland was barraged by heavy snow from Siberia the office building at Norton Park was closed for snow days, due to the difficult weather and restrictions on public transport. Our Development Co-ordinator Clare McGillivray reflected on what makes snow days rock and roll! Read all about it by visiting our website [www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/category/guest-bloggers](http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/category/guest-bloggers). If interested in contributing your own blog to our website or just want more information contact the office via 0131 475 2509 or email [info@edinburghtenants.org.uk](mailto:info@edinburghtenants.org.uk).

### Diary Dates

#### March 2018

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| 13th March | Regulation of Social Housing in Scotland Consultation, 6.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road |
| 30th March | Good Friday – Office Closed   |

#### April 2018

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| 2nd April  | Easter Monday – Office Closed   |
| 10th April | Tenant Participation: Back to Basics Training, 5.30pm – 9pm, Napier Room, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road |
| 16th April | Public Holiday – Office Closed  |
| 23rd April | Public Speaking: Finding Your Voice Training, 6pm – 9pm, Napier Room, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road     |

#### May 2018

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| 7th May  | Public Holiday – Office Closed   |
| 12th May | Finance Training: Balancing the Books, 9.30am – 3.30pm, Napier Room, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road             |
| 14th May | Federation Meeting 7pm – Venue to be confirmed   |
| 21st May | Public Holiday – Office Closed   |
| 24th May | Consensus Decision Making: Mediating Group Conflict, 2pm – 5.30pm, Napier Room, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road. |