



EDINBURGH TENANTS
FEDERATION

Federation Matters

July 2017

ETF Annual General Meeting

ETF's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is the highlight of the Federation's year and we would like to thank everyone who attended. It was great to see some new faces and feedback from the AGM has been very positive. ETF would also like to thank Councillor Cammy Day, Deputy Leader of the City of Edinburgh Council and Marion Findlay, Director of Services, Volunteer Edinburgh who presented awards to our volunteers. Congratulations to John Aitken who was re-elected to serve on the Federation's Executive Committee.

Thank you Sheila

ETF would like to pay tribute to Sheila Rutherford-McCallum who has stepped down from the Federation's Executive Committee after 16 years. Sheila was Treasurer of ETF for a number of years and was recently Secretary until the AGM. Sheila will be a huge loss to the Federation's Executive Committee and we will all miss her drive and enthusiasm. There will be an article in the August edition of *Tenants Voice*, where she will speak about some of the highlights of being involved with ETF.

Volunteer Awards

The Volunteer Awards Ceremony was held at the City Chambers on the Royal Mile on Wednesday 7th June 2017. The late John Fayrer was the recipient of the Tenant Participation Volunteering Award for his tremendous work with ETF and his local group Meadowfield, Lady Nairn and Paisley Residents Association. John's cousin Richard Smith and Nicol Johnstone, ETF Executive Committee Member and Chair of the Sheltered Housing Liaison Group accepted the award on John's behalf. Congratulations are also due to ETF's Tenant Led Inspection Team, the Rent Matters Working Group, the Sheltered Housing Liaison Group and to Kerry Quinn of Murrayburn Residents Organisation who received awards for their volunteer work. Tenants and Residents in Muirhouse & Friends of West Pilton were crowned Tenants' Group of the Year at the Tenants Information Service Annual Conference for the brilliant work they do in their local community. Congratulations to everyone who received an award and thank you to all our ETF volunteers who help out on a daily basis.

ETF High Flats Meeting, Wednesday 12th July 2017, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road

The ETF High Flats Group will be holding a special meeting on **Wednesday 12th July 2017, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road**. A representative from the City of Edinburgh Council and Fire Scotland will be in attendance to give an update on fire safety measures in high rise blocks across the city as a result of the Grenfell Tower Tragedy in London. For bookings contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email

info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. You can also book online via www.edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Please use public transport where possible. Assistance with transport and childcare may be available on request. ETF has made a statement on fire safety in high rise flats and this can be found at <http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/etf-statement-fire-safety-high-rise-blocks/>.

Furthermore the City of Edinburgh Council has issued a Tenants' Courier newsletter to all tenants living in high rise blocks across the city and this can be found at

<http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/9498/fire-safety-in-tower-blocks>.

Edinburgh Tenants Federation Norton Park 57 Albion Road Edinburgh EH7 5QY

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ETF Blog

This month's blog comes from Ross McCulloch, Director of Third Sector Lab Ltd and will tell us about the benefits of landlords using social media as a tool for engaging with service users. You can read Ross's blog at <http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/category/guest-bloggers/>. We are looking for people to help tell the story about what is happening in housing in Edinburgh. If you're a tenant, work in housing, interested in community development or just passionate about where you live then why not become a guest blogger. If you're interested in contributing a blog or would like more information, please contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. Some useful hints and tips for writing blogs can be found at <http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/draft-blog/>.

Tenants Voice: Call for Articles

All groups should have received a copy of the latest edition of *Tenants Voice*. If you would like extra copies, please contact the Federation office. The deadline for material for the next issue is **Monday 24th July 2017**, so if there's anything you'd like to say, please speak up! Articles and letters for publication should be sent into the Federation office at Norton Park, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh EH7 5QY, or emailed to info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. Alternatively, give the Federation office a call on 0131 475 2509 if you'd like help to pull an article together.

Annual Report

All groups will shortly be receiving a copy of the Federation's Annual Report for 2016/2017. If you would like extra copies, please contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Housing Roadshows

Calling all Registered Tenant Organisations. ETF and the City of Edinburgh Council will be holding Housing Roadshows over the next couple of months. The purpose of the Roadshows is to provide housing information to tenants, promote the support available to tenants, raise awareness of ETF and local Registered Tenant Organisations (RTOs) and promote the Tenants' Panel. If any RTOs can suggest possible venues or can help by sending tenant representatives along to volunteer on the stalls, even for a couple of hours, please contact Mark Henry at the Federation Office on 0131 475 2509 or email mark@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Membership Renewal

Thank you to all member groups who renewed their membership in time for the AGM. We are still accepting renewals from groups, just complete and return the membership application form. If you require a new form, please contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email mary@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Diary Dates

Here are dates of upcoming events that may be of interest to you. Please pass them onto other members of your organisation.

July 2017

12 July ETF High Flats Meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road

Please use public transport where possible. If required, assistance with transport and childcare may be available on request. Contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 for more information or to book a place at any of the events.