



EDINBURGH TENANTS
FEDERATION

Federation Matters

March 2015

Council Rents

ETF would like to extend a massive thank you to everyone who attended our protest outside the Council Chambers on Thursday 12th February 2015. Despite the Federation's campaign for a rent freeze, Councillors agreed to increase Council tenants' rents by 2% from April 2015. We would like to thank everyone who was involved in the planning of the deputation, which included a giant Kit Kat signifying the campaign slogan *Gie's a Break, Gie's a Rent Freeze*. We were delighted with the media coverage that ETF received, including our very own Sheila Rutherford - McCallum being interviewed by STV and the BBC. ETF will continue to work with the Council on rents and will be setting up a Rents Group. This is a great opportunity for Council tenants to get involved, understand what their rents pay for and help to influence rents issues in Edinburgh. If you would like to get involved or find out more about the new Rents Group, please contact Clare at the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email clare@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

ETF Repairs Meeting, Wednesday 4th March 2015, Norton Park, 7.00pm-9.00pm

The next meeting of ETF Repairs Group meeting will take place on **Wednesday 4th March 2015** at **7.00pm** in **Norton Park, 57 Albion Road**. At the meeting, there will be a discussion on the group's priorities for the coming year and there will be an update on the Council's plans for door entry systems. If you have any repairs issues in your area, please come. If you would like to be included on our Repairs Group mailing list, please contact Mark at the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email mark@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

ETF 25th Anniversary Planning Group

Edinburgh Tenants Federation will be 25 years old in October 2015 and we want to mark this momentous occasion in style and celebrate the enormous contributions ETF and tenants' groups have made to improving communities. ETF will soon be establishing a group to take forward the planning, implementation and evaluation of the 25th Anniversary celebrations. If you would be interested in being involved or would like more information, please contact Justine at the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email justine@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Tenants Voice: Call for Articles

All groups will shortly be receiving a copy of the Federation's *Tenant's Voice*. If you would like extra copies, please contact the Federation office. The deadline for material for the next issue is **Monday 13th April 2015**. Articles and letters for publication should be sent into the Federation office at Norton Park, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh EH7 5QY, or can be 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.

Farewell Euan

As you are no doubt aware, Euan Maclachlan has been on placement with us since October last year as part of his University degree course. Euan has been extremely hard working and very popular with the Executive Committee and staff. He will be leaving the office in the middle of March and we wish him the very best of luck in the future.

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

☎ 0131 475 2509 □ info@edinburghtenants.org.uk 🌐 www.edinburghtenants.org.uk

Inspiring Volunteering Achievement Awards 2015

Do you know someone within your organisation who deserves an Inspiring Volunteering Achievement Award? If so, please read on, and consider nominating them. Nominations are now invited for this year's awards, and can be submitted online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/IVA2015>. Organisations are welcome to nominate up to **three individual volunteers** and **one team of volunteers**. Edinburgh's Volunteering Ambassador the Lord Provost Donald Wilson will honour some of the dedicated volunteers who give their time, energy and commitment to the people of Edinburgh at a special awards ceremony to take place on **Tuesday 16th June 2015 at The City Chambers**. Nominations will close on **Wednesday 1st April 2015 at 8.00pm**. For more information please contact Lara Celini, Core Services Manager at Volunteer Centre Edinburgh on 0131 225 0630 or email lara.celini@volunteeredinburgh.org.uk.

Advance notice – Inaugural Meeting for tenants of Registered Social Edinburgh Landlords, Monday 27th April 2015, Norton Park Conference Centre, 7.00pm

The ETF Registered Social Landlords Tenants' Group is holding their Inaugural General Meeting on **Monday 27th April 2015 at 7.00pm** in the **Norton Park Conference Centre**. The purpose of the meeting is to appoint a Committee and Office Bearers (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer) and to agree a Constitution. If you would like to book a place at the meeting or would like more information, please call Terry Kirby on 0131 228 9405 or email rsltenants@yahoo.co.uk.

Advance notice - Federation Annual General Meeting, Friday 19th June 2015

The date for ETF's Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been set for **Friday 19th June 2015 at 7.00pm** with the venue to be confirmed. We will inform members of the location and how to book a place nearer the time.

Diary Dates

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

March 2015

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| 4 March | ETF Repairs Group Meeting, Norton Park, 57 Albion Road, 7.00pm-9.00pm |
| 12 March | Councillor Day's Housing Workshop, European Room, City Chambers, 6.30pm. To book a place, please contact Ally Ramage on 0131 529 7239 or email alastair.ramage@edinburgh.gov.uk . |
| 17 March | TPAS Tea Time Chat Session, Apex Haymarket Hotel Haymarket, 2.30pm-4.30pm and 5.30pm-7.30pm. To book a place, please contact Elaine Scoular on 0141 5523633 or email elaine.scoular@tpasscotland.org.uk |

April 2015

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| 3 April | Public Holiday – Office closed |
| 6 April | Public Holiday – Office closed |
| 20 April | Public Holiday – Office closed |
| 27 April | Inaugural General Meeting for tenants of Registered Social Landlords, Norton Park Conference Centre, 7.00pm-9.00pm |

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