



EDINBURGH TENANTS
FEDERATION

Federation Matters

July 2015

ETF Annual General Meeting

A huge thank you to everyone who came to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and launch of the City of Edinburgh Council's Tenant Participation Strategy on Friday 19th June 2015 in the City Chambers. It was great to see so many in attendance and it was especially pleasing to see so many new faces. Congratulations to Niel Hansen, Nicol Johnstone, Ken McKay, Heather Ford and Irina Lazarenko who were elected onto the Federation's Executive Committee and we wish them the very best of luck in their new roles. We would also like to pay tribute to Maureen Jarvis who stood down from the Federation's Executive Committee. Maureen was the Federation's Vice Convenor for the past 10 years and she will be a huge loss to the Executive Committee. We wish Maureen all the best in her future endeavours.

Volunteer Edinburgh Awards Ceremony

The Volunteer Centre Awards Ceremony took place on Tuesday 16th June 2015 in the City Chambers. The event was a huge success, particularly for ETF and we would like to give special praise to our EC member Maud Wylie. Maud won the Tenant Participation Champion Award which is the second year in a row one of ETF's Executive Committee has won the award as Davie Thomson won the award last year. Congratulations are also due to the Calders Sheltered Housing Group, Harry Guntley and Niel Hansen who received certificates for their volunteer work. Well done to everyone that received an award and thank you to all our ETF volunteers who help out on a daily basis.

Calling all RTOs in the South West Area

ETF and the City of Edinburgh Council are piloting the second Housing Roadshow in the South West Neighbourhood. The Roadshow will take place on **Monday 13th July 2015** from **9.00am-3.00pm** in **TESCO, Colinton Mains Drive, Colinton**. The purpose of the Roadshow is to provide housing information to tenants, promote the support available to tenants, raise awareness of ETF and promote the Tenants' Panel. If any RTOs in the south west area are interested in sending tenant representatives along on the day to help out, please contact Mark at the Federation Office on 0131 475 2509 or email mark@edinburghtenants.org.uk. ETF and the Council will be running more Roadshows in other areas across the city in the very near future, so watch this space for further details.

Human Rights and Tenant Participation

We are very pleased to report that ETF is developing a partnership with the Scottish Human Rights Commission, the Belfast based Participation and the Practice of Rights organisation (www.pprproject.org) on a ground breaking project supporting tenants to make practical use of human rights to address housing problems across Edinburgh. ETF held an information session on Monday 22nd June 2015 in the Melting Pot. Delegates in attendance were able to find out first hand some of the human right issues that are affecting tenants living in Belfast and discuss how a human rights based approach could be used in Edinburgh. This is a very exciting piece of work for ETF and if you would like your area to be considered as a pilot in Edinburgh, please email clare@edinburghtenants.org.uk or phone 0131 475 2509 by the end of July.

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

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Membership Renewal

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

Tenants Voice: Call for Articles

All groups should have received a copy of *Tenant's Voice Issue 94*. If you would like extra copies, please contact the Federation office. The deadline for material for the next issue is **Monday 20th July 2015**, 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 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.

Annual Report

All groups will shortly be receiving a copy of the Federation's Annual Report for 2014/2015. If you would like extra copies, please contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Join the City of Edinburgh Council Tenants' Panel

ETF would like to encourage tenants to sign up to the Tenants' Panel, which provides tenants with opportunities to tell the Council what they think about housing services and what can be improved. Any tenant and their family members, aged 16 and above and living with them, can join. If you would like any further information about the Tenants' Panel or would like to join, please contact Sam Reeves, Senior Tenant Participation Officer on 0131 529 7805 or email sam.reeves@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Advance notice - SafeTALK Training, Monday 7th September 2015, Post Graduate Education Centre, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, 51 Little France Crescent, Edinburgh EH16 4SA, 09.15am-1.00pm

The City of Edinburgh Council is running a Safetalk session on **Monday 7th September 2015** from **09.15am-1.00pm** in the **Post Graduate Education Centre, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh**. The session will teach you to recognise people with thoughts of suicide and how to connect them to intervention resources. If you would be interested in attending, please book online via www.edinburghtenants.org.uk, contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. Places are limited and must be booked in advance by **Monday 31st August 2015**.

Diary Dates

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

July 2015

13 July Housing Roadshow, TESCO, Colinton Mains Drive, Colinton, 9.00am-3.00pm

Contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 for more information.