



EDINBURGH TENANTS
FEDERATION

Federation Matters October 2016

Federation Meeting, Monday 24th October 2016, 7.00pm-9.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile

The next Federation Meeting will take place on **Monday 24th October 2016, 7.00pm-9.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile**. This is an opportunity for tenants to ask questions of Councillors on the Council's Health, Social Care and Housing Committee and Finance Committee as well as Senior Council Managers relating to the co-production process. The format of the meeting will be as follows:

- A presentation from the City of Edinburgh Council on the current position of the co-production process;
- A question and answer session. Tenants will have the opportunity to submit questions in advance.

For bookings contact the Federation Office on 0131 475 2509, email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk or book online at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk. Please use public transport where possible. Assistance with transport and childcare may be available on request.

ETF Blog

ETF's blog was launched at our AGM in June, is on our website and e-newsletter and includes articles, contributions and opinions. If you are a tenant, work in housing, interested in community development or just plain passionate about where you live, then why not become one of our guest bloggers? We need your input about what is taking place in housing in Edinburgh for the blog to be a success.

Our previous bloggers have included Kirsty Wells, Housemark Manager Scotland which focussed on value for money on rents, Bill Walker, Chair of Gateside Tenants and Residents Association on how his group has managed to involve people in their local community and Judith Robertson, Chair, Scottish Human Rights Commission on human rights in housing. For our November edition, Councillor Cammy Day, Housing and Community Safety Leader, City of Edinburgh Council will be feeding back on the Council's Tenants' Conference and giving an update on the Council's Rent Consultation. 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>.

We need your feedback! Annual Surveys

Member Groups and individuals who have attended an ETF event in the last year will soon receive a survey asking for your (or your group's) views on how ETF has performed over the last twelve months. Your feedback is very important to ETF because it helps us to plan the future work of your Federation and we have a duty to share your views with our funders. The Federation's work is funded by the City of Edinburgh Council through a Service Level Agreement and we are obliged to seek the views of our service users on an annual basis as part of a monitoring and evaluation exercise. 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 online via our website at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk no later than **Friday 11th November 2016**.

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

 0131 475 2509  info@edinburghtenants.org.uk  www.edinburghtenants.org.uk

Welcome to Fraser and Kirsten

We are delighted to welcome our new students Fraser McDonald and Kirsten Gray to ETF. Fraser is very much enjoying his placement at ETF. "I started my student placement at the beginning of September and will finish in March. I am a 4th year Honours student studying Community Education at the University of Edinburgh. I am delighted to be here at Edinburgh Tenants Federation on placement and look forward to contributing to the ongoing good work of the project." Why not drop Fraser and Kirsten a line at the Federation office? Fraser's email address is fraser@edinburghtenants.org.uk and Kirsten's email address is student@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Tenants Voice: Call for Articles

Our next edition of *Tenants Voice* will be a landmark edition as it will be our 100th. If you have any articles you would like included or have any suggestions on what you would like to see included we would love to hear from you. The deadline for material is **Monday 17th October 2016**. 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. Give the Federation office a call on 0131 475 2509 if you'd like help to pull an article together.

City of Edinburgh Council Rent Consultation

The City of Edinburgh Council is currently carrying out a rent consultation, which is an ideal opportunity for Council tenants to tell the Council the best ways they can invest rent to help tenants save money. The consultation is open from **Monday 10th October 2016** until **Monday 28th November 2016** and tenants can have their say in a number of ways:

- Online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/tenantsaving;
- By email at Housing.research@edinburgh.gov.uk;
- By phone on 0131 529 7232;
- By picking up a FREEPOST card at your local neighbourhood office or library.

Sheltered Housing Conference, Wednesday 12th October 2016, 9.30am-2.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile

The Edinburgh Sheltered Housing Liaison Group in partnership with the City of Edinburgh will be holding its first Conference on **Wednesday 12th October 2016, 10.00am-1.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile. Registration starts at 9.30am.** The Conference will feature discussions and will include some light entertainment with refreshments provided. There will be a stall on a number of topics of interests to tenants of Sheltered Housing. Bookings must be by **Thursday 6th October 2016** and can be done by speaking to your Housing Support Officer, calling 0131 529 7595 or emailing Alison.mcleod@edinburgh.gov.uk. Please note this conference is only open to tenants in City of Edinburgh Council sheltered housing. Transport is available to those with mobility needs.

City of Edinburgh Council Tenants' Conference, 9.30am-2.00pm, Saturday 29th October 2016, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street

The City of Edinburgh Council Tenants' Conference will be held on **Saturday 24 October 2015, 9.30am-2.00pm, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street**. There will be a discussion about your vision for Edinburgh in 2050, getting to know your Housing Officer better and what's important to you about your home? This event is for all City of Edinburgh Council tenants and their representatives. There will be time to visit stalls on a range of issues and you can have your say in the Video Diary Room. This event is free. A crèche can be provided for children aged 10 and under and transport for people with mobility difficulties. Waverley Court is fully wheelchair accessible. Special diets catered for. If you would like to attend email tenant.panel@edinburgh.gov.uk or ring 0131 529 7545 to book your place.

ETF Learning Session

Are you new to a committee? Or, do you think you would benefit from refreshing your knowledge and skills? ETF is holding a one day learning session on **Saturday 5th November 2016, 9.00am-3.30pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road**. The learning session will look at

- How committees work;
- Preparation and managing meetings;
- Roles and responsibilities;
- Conflict resolution.

You can book online at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk, email the Federation Office at info@edinburghtenants.org.uk or telephone 0131 475 2509. Housing Association tenants are required to pay a nominal fee, please contact your landlord before booking a place.

SafeTALK Training Session

The City of Edinburgh Council is running a SafeTALK training session on **Tuesday 1st November 2016, 1.00pm-5.00pm** in the **Bonnington Social Work Centre, Bonnington Road**. The session will teach you to recognise people with thoughts of suicide and how to connect them to intervention resources. If you like to attend, please contact Alan Laughland on 0131 553 8311 or email Alan.Laughland@edinburgh.gov.uk. **Places are limited and must be booked Tuesday 25th October 2016.**

Federation Meeting, Wednesday 23rd November 2016, 7.00pm-9.00pm, venue to be confirmed

The Federation Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 23rd November 2016, 7.00pm - 9.00pm, venue to be confirmed**. The topic will be the City of Edinburgh Council's Rent Consultation for 2017/2018. You will hear what tenants have already said during the rent consultation and will have the opportunity to get involved in this year's consultation. Members will also have the chance to hear what ETF has done over the past few months as we discuss our quarterly Progress Report. Information on how you can book a place as well as papers for the meeting will be made available in the next few weeks, but in the meantime, please put this date in your diary. Please use public transport where possible. Assistance with transport and childcare may be available on request.

Diary Dates

October 2016

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| 12 October | Sheltered Housing Conference, 9.30am-2.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile. Places must be booked in advance. |
| 24 October | Federation Meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile |
| 29 October | City of Edinburgh Council Tenants' Conference, time to be confirmed, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street |

November 2016

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| 1 November | SafeTALK Training, 1.00pm-5.00pm, Bonnington Social Work Centre, Bonnington Road. Places must be booked in advance. |
| 5 November | Committee Skills Learning Session, 8.30am-4.30pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road. Places must be booked in advance. |
| 23 November | Federation Meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, venue to be confirmed |

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.