



EDINBURGH TENANTS
FEDERATION

Federation Matters November 2016

Update from October's Federation Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended our Federation meeting in October at the City Chambers. This was a great opportunity to meet with elected members about the co-production of tenant participation and engagement services with the City of Edinburgh Council and how we take this work forward. A report about discussions on the night will be circulated to Members shortly.

ETF Learning Session: Committee Skills

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, 9.30am-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.

We need your feedback! Annual Surveys

Please remember to fill in your survey form (individual and / or group) and return it to the ETF office. It's important that we gather as many returns as possible to help us report your views of ETF to the Council and formulate our Work Plan for the coming year. 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. We would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes filling it in and returning it to us using the supplied Freepost envelope no later than **Friday 11th November 2016**. You can also complete the survey on-line by logging onto www.edinburghtenants.org.uk. If you require a paper copy of either survey please contact the Federation office.

Federation Meeting, Wednesday 23rd November 2016, 7.00pm-9.00pm, The Melting Pot, 5 Rose Street

The Federation Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 23rd November 2016, 7.00pm - 9.00pm, the Melting Pot, 5 Rose Street**. 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. 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.

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

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

ETF High Flats Meeting, Monday 28th November 2016, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Birnies Court, Muirhouse View

The next meeting of the ETF High Flats Group will take place on **Monday 28th November 2016, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Birnies Court, Muirhouse View**. George Norval, Housing Operations Manager, City of Edinburgh Council will be giving a talk on the four new localities in Edinburgh. 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.

City of Edinburgh Council Rent Consultation

Last year tenants told the City of Edinburgh Council they wanted them to build more homes, make homes cheaper to manage and provide services that help them to reduce costs. In January 2016 the Council agreed a plan to invest in homes and services that will help tenants spend less. The plan is to deliver all these money saving improvements by 2020 and keep rents affordable. This is your opportunity to get involved and have your say on the five year plan, whether you want to speed up improvements or slow them down and what else is affecting your cost of living.

The consultation is open until **Wednesday 30th 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.

There will also be various drop in events across the city, you can check out the venues, dates and times on the Consultation Hub at

consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/2017-18-council-housing-budget-consultation/

EVOC SCIO Workshop, Wednesday 30th November 2016, 6.00pm-8.00pm, EVOC Offices 14 Ashley Place, Edinburgh EH6 5PX

Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council (EVOC) will be holding a workshop about SCIOs (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations). The workshop will take place on **Wednesday 30th November 2016, 6.00pm-8.00pm, EVOC Offices, 14 Ashley Place** and will focus on why it is widely becoming the charity of choice for new organisations. The workshop will look at how to form a new SCIO or converting your existing organisation into a SCIO. The workshop is aimed at both staff and charity trustees and will be helpful for ETF Members keen to learn more about how organisations become a SCIO. If you would like to book a place please phone 0131 555 9100 or email info@evoc.org.uk. **Places must be booked in advance.**

Neighbourhood Partnership 'Meet the Funders' Event, Thursday 8th December 2016, 11.00am-2.00pm, Heart of Midlothian Football Club, Gorgie Road

Would you like to discuss ideas with potential funders and collect information about possible sources of grant aid? If so then why not come along to the Neighbourhood Partnership 'Meet the Funders' event for voluntary groups. This is a free informal drop in session and everyone is welcome to attend. The event will take place on **Thursday 8th December 2016, 11.00am 2.00pm, Heart of Midlothian Football Club, Gorgie Road**. For further information, contact Maureen Thompson on 0131 469 3595 or email maureen.thompson@edinburgh.gov.uk.

ETF Blog

ETF's blog 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. For this 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>.

Help to get 'oot the hoose' with LOOPs

As we get older, the risk of social isolation becomes greater, which can also affect our mental and physical health. LOOPs (Local Opportunities for Older People) was set up to combat this. We run a city-wide phone line which helps over 65s to get out the house, meet like-minded people and enjoy everything Edinburgh has to offer. Over 65s, their families, friends and healthcare professionals can call **0131 603 8311** for free, to speak to a friendly LOOPs advisor about clubs and activities in their local area. We do all the research to provide you with the information you need, and can also organise transport to and from activities. Tailored to your individual requirements and interests, LOOPs has already connected over 600 older people to laughter, fun and friendships.

Diary Dates

November 2016

5 November	Committee Skills Learning Session, 9.30am-3.30pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road. Places must be booked in advance.
23 November	Federation Meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, The Melting Pot, 5 Rose Street
28 November	ETF High Flats meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Birnies Court, Muirhouse View
30 November	EVOC SCIO Workshop, 6.00pm-8.00pm, EVOC Offices, 14 Ashley Place. Places must be booked in advance.

December 2016

7 December	ETF Repairs Group Meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, venue to be confirmed
8 December	Neighbourhood Partnership Meet the Funders, 11.00am-2.00pm, Gorgie Suite, Hear of Midlothian Football Club, Gorgie 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.

