



EDINBURGH TENANTS
FEDERATION

Federation Matters November 2018



Update from October's Federation Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended our Federation meeting in October at Norton Park. ETF has submitted a response to City of Edinburgh Council's (CEC) Rent Consultation. This can be viewed on the Federation's website at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk. If you would like a hard copy of ETF's response please email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. Thanks to everyone who helped form ETF's response.

Federation Meeting, Wednesday 28th November 2018, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road

Would you like to help shape the CEC's Tenant Participation Strategy? If so then why not come along to the next Federation meeting, which will take place on **Wednesday 28th November 2018, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road**. The guest speakers will be Sam Reeves, Senior Housing Development Officer, CEC and Jennifer Hunter and Tenant and Resident Services Manager, CEC and they will be giving a talk about the strategy and answering questions. There will be a discussion in groups about formulating ETF's response and there will also be a chance to hear what ETF has been involved in over the past few months as discuss our quarterly Progress Report. Bookings can be made online at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk or emailing info@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

ETF High Flats Meeting, Monday 3rd December 2018, 7.00pm – 9.00pm, Birnies Court, Muirhouse View

The next ETF High Flats Meeting will take place on **Monday 3rd December 2018, 7.00pm - 9.00pm in Birnies Court, Muirhouse View**. The guest speakers will be Councillor Adam McVey, Leader of CEC and Councillor Kate Campbell, Convenor of Housing and Economy Committee, CEC and they will be giving an update on what will be coming up with regards to housing in Edinburgh in the coming months. There will also be an opportunity to give an update on what is happening in your area. Bookings can be made online at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk or emailing info@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

The Future of Social Housing Regulation in Scotland consultation

The Scottish Housing Regulator has launched a consultation paper on proposals for how it regulates social housing in Scotland. In its proposals, the Regulator explains how it will continue to safeguard and promote the interests of current and future tenants, people who are homeless and others who use social landlords' services. The consultation runs to **Friday 14th December 2018**. If you wish to find out more about the consultation please contact the Scottish Housing Regulator by emailing consultation@scottishhousingregulator.gsi.gov.uk. A copy of the discussion Paper can be downloaded at <https://www.scottishhousingregulator.gov.uk/publications/our-regulation-social-housing-consultation>. The Tenants Information Service will be holding an information session on **Monday 12th November 2018, 1.00pm-4.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road**. You can book a place by emailing Jill Miller at jmiller@tis.org.uk.

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

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Universal Credit Locality Events

Universal Credit full service is being rolled out in the City of Edinburgh on 28th November 2018. In anticipation of this, EVOC are hosting events to provide information and networking opportunities for public and third sector partners. There are 80 places available for each event. You need to type in the password 'universal' to access each event page.

North East Locality – Wednesday 7th November 2018, 9.00am-12.30pm, Destiny Church Edinburgh – Leith Centre, 12 Casselbank Street EH6 5HA. To book a place, email info@evoc.org.uk or book online at

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ne-locality-universal-credit-event-tickets-50269814368>.

South West Locality – Monday 12th November 2018, 9.00am-12.30pm, Napier University – Sighthill Campus, 9 Sighthill Court EH11 4BN. To book a place, email info@evoc.org.uk or book online at

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sw-locality-universal-credit-event-tickets-50270630810>. You need to type in the password 'universal' to access each event page.

The event will provide organisations with an opportunity to learn about the Universal Credit full service, what support is available to claimants, as well as offering you the chance to raise any questions.

Upgrading the street lights across Edinburgh

Many of Edinburgh's street lights are no longer made and can't be maintained. So, CEC is upgrading them to energy efficient ones which are better for the environment, cheaper to run, give off a clearer light and can make streets feel safer. CEC is also putting in a new street lighting control system at the same time. This will help them identify faulty lights quicker and without people needing to report them. Work will begin towards the end of the year and is planned to be completed by early 2021. It should only take around 15 minutes to replace each light and since the street lighting columns are generally not being replaced, the work shouldn't cause people any disruption.

What changes will I see?

The light will look different. It's whiter and clearer than the more orange light we are used to, but it is not a blue light. There's also less light spill, lighting up roads and pavements better, rather than escaping upwards or shining into people's homes or gardens.

Making our streets feel safer at night

- Less glare and dazzle, lighting up a street more evenly;
- It's easier to see colours, making it safer for people driving, walking and cycling;
- The clearer light improves the quality of CCTV images.

Better for the environment:

- Use 60% less energy and reduce the Council's carbon footprint;
- Reduce light pollution and provides a better environment for birds and wildlife;
- No ultraviolet light reducing the attraction of night time insects;
- Almost 100% recyclable and don't contain any harmful substances.

Cheaper to run and maintain

- They last up to five times longer than existing lanterns;
- They shine for 100,000 hours, 25 years;
- We will avoid £54m of energy, maintenance and disposal costs over 20 years.

Further information is available at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/streetlighting or phone 0131 529 3523.

Improving Rent Collection with Tenants

A group of tenants recently inspected the City of Edinburgh Council's communications on rent and gave a number of recommendations to the Council. The tenant inspectors think that some of the rent letters the Council sends to tenants could be clearer. If you would like to talk about how rent letters could be improved, please email mark@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

Scottish Housing Regulator Board Appointments

Scottish Ministers are recruiting two new members to the Scottish Housing Regulator's (SHR) Board to replace members whose terms will end in March 2019. This is an opportunity to help influence the shape of social housing regulation in Scotland. The SHR will be holding an informal session on **Monday 12th November 2018, 4.30pm-7.30pm, Edinburgh Training and Conference Venue, 16 Saint Mary's Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SU**. The session will let you hear from and talk to current board members about the work of the SHR and the role of the Board. You can book a place by clicking https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-housing-regulator-board-appointment-information-sessions-tickets-51449312278?utm_term=eventurl_text. The closing date for applicants is **Friday 23rd November 2018** at midnight.

Diary Dates

November 2018

7 November	North East locality Universal Credit Event, 9.00am-12.30pm, Destiny Church Edinburgh – Leith Centre, 12 Casselbank Street EH6 5HA.
12 November	South West locality Universal Credit Event, 9.00am-12.30pm, Napier University – Sighthill Campus, 9 Sighthill Court EH11 4BN.
12 November	Tenants Information Service Information Session, 1.00pm-4.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road
12 November	SHR Informal Session, 4.30pm-7.30pm, Edinburgh Training and Conference Venue, 16 St Mary's Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SU
23 November	Deadline for applicants to SHR Board
28 November	Federation Meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road

December 2018

3 December	High Flats Meeting, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Birnies Court Community Room, Muirhouse View
14 December	Deadline for responses to the Future of Social Housing Regulation in Scotland consultation
21 December	Office Closes for Christmas and New Year holidays at 2.00pm and re-opens on Monday 7 th January 2019.

Edinburgh Tenants Federation is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) SC048236, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)