



# Leeds Tenants Federation

## Annual General Meeting

### Minutes

24<sup>th</sup> September 2016 10-1pm  
St Georges Centre, Leeds

#### 1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the attendees and the speakers to the meeting

#### 2. Annual Statement 2015-16

The Chair went through the Annual Statement for 2015-16 highlighting achievements throughout the year including:

- Changes to the Board and new members.
- Refocussing some of our efforts on Tenants and Residents Associations (TARAs) to further help local communities.
- Contributing to VITAL, the strategic tenant involvement body being consulted on city-wide decisions and policies.
- Holding several general meetings on various subjects like welfare reform, including the annual TARA conferences in June 2015 and July 2016.
- Considering new ways of working with IT and accommodation as funding reduced.
- We are one of the main contributors to **VITAL (Voice of Involved Tenants Across Leeds)** the overarching strategic tenant body bringing together tenant and resident participation in the city.
- We formed the new TARA panel which had its first meeting in September 2015. The panel looked at issues affecting all tenants across Leeds and made recommendations to the LTF Board and VITAL. We are reconnecting with tenants at a grass roots level.
- We launched the new TARA action guide, a useful setup document for new groups and a valuable information resource for existing ones.
- We became part of the Private Rented Sector Forum and looked at ways to bring council and private tenants together. We also attended the Landlords Conference.

#### 3. The 2016/17 Service Plan

Our 2016/17 Service Plan aims to be relevant and achievable given that we are an organisation of volunteers.

It has 3 sections:

### **To ensure we are an effective organisation**

- Hold an Annual General Meeting
- Hold general meetings/conferences
- Have a Management Board and Executive Committee
- Have a professional and inclusive Board
- Provide organisational governance and value for money

### **Support Leeds TARAs, Area Representatives and individual members**

- T governance, setup and TARA Guide
- TARA panel to share information and best practice
- Reconnection at local meeting level
- Direct and facilitate training for TARAs through Housing Leeds and evaluate success
- Annual Statement and publications
- Help groups and members challenge housing providers across all tenures

### **Strategic city-wide, regional and national support for tenant involvement**

- Work in partnership with other city-wide tenant involvement groups.
- Continuing engagement and communications with all housing tenures including housing associations and the private sector.
- Network with regional and national groups to ensure tenant views are fed into strategic policies.

## **4. The Leeds Housing Strategy**

Sarah Lockwood, Tenant Involvement Housing Manager talked about the new Leeds Housing Strategy. <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Housing-Strategy-Annual.aspx>

## **5. Election of Directors**

The following Executive positions were elected for 16/17:

Chair – Andrea Purdy

Vice Chair – Margaret Foster

Secretary – Jackie Worthington

Treasurer – Wendi Carson

Directors elected were:

Roderic Morgan	Jeff Gantshuck	Bill Reynolds
Maddy Hunter	Sue Clifford	Don Belford
Jim Ojelade	Patricia Jackson	
Neruka White	Tony Hepworth	

## 6. The 2015/16 Financial Report

The Treasurer gave details of the 2015/16 Accounts which have been checked and sent to Companies House.

## 7. White Rose Energy

The chair gave a presentation on behalf of White Rose Energy, the company set up by Leeds City Council to provide fair and economic energy.

White Rose Energy is a new energy supplier that has been set up by Leeds City Council in partnership with Robin Hood Energy to provide residents from across the region with a fairer alternative for their gas and electricity. White Rose Energy will provide the following to its customers:

- Consistently competitive prices regardless of tariff type
- Transparent tariff structures with no unwelcome surprises
- A fairer deal for low energy users and pre-payment customers who have traditionally been poorly served by the established energy suppliers
- White Rose Energy is available to all residents across the region, regardless of whether you own or rent your home.

The following tariff types are available:

- Standard Variable
- Fixed Rate
- Smart Pay-As-You-Go

To switch to White Rose Energy, visit [www.whiteroseenergy.co.uk](http://www.whiteroseenergy.co.uk) or telephone **0800 0223553**.

## 8. Questions

Attendees asked many questions and answers to these are available in a document on LTF's web- site <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/LTF>