

**LEEDS TENANTS FEDERATION**  
**TARA PANEL ACTIONS AND TOPIC SUMMARY**  
**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018**  
**John Lewis Community Hub 4.30-6.00pm**

**Attendees**

Name	Representing	Initials
Andrea Purdy	Chair LTF and Queenswood TARA	AP
Wendi Carson	Treasurer of LTF and Queenswood TARA	WC
Jackie Worthington	Secretary LTF and Atlanta Street TARA	JW
Tony Hepworth	Atlanta Street TARA	TH
Ann Maughan	Sandringham TARA	AM
Kimberley Frangos	Wortley TARA	KF
Mick Dodds	St Augustines Court	MD
Stuart Walton	Broadleas Better Communities TARA	SW
Chris Briggs	Queensview TARA	CB
Josie Foley	Rydals, Denshaws and Newlands	JF
Sean Foley	Rydals, Denshaws and Newlands	SF
Neruka White	Gipton Area Representative	NW
Peter Greenwood	Housing Manager – Tenant Involvement	PG
Tracey McGarry	Housing Assistant – Tenant Engagement	TM
Philip Windle	Housing Options	PW
Anthony Hodgkinson	Housing Options	AH

**Apologies**

Jeff Gantschuck	Westfield TARA	JG
Alan Mann	Holt Park	AM
Rob Neilson	Bardsey and East Keswick	RN
Sheila Horne	Whincover Grange Area Representative	SH
Corrine Brown	Church Hill Gardens HAP	CB
Diane Marsden	Seacroft Green TARA	DM
Lily Woods	Seacroft Green TARA	LW
Madeline Hunter	Button Hill TARA	MH
Sue Clifford	Lakeland Court TARA	SC
Patricia Jackson	Hunslet TARA	PJ
Sue Kerrigan	St Augustines Court	SK
Margaret Foster	Thorpe TARA	MF

**Conflicts of interest** - None

**Actions and comments from previous meeting**

TM informed that no presentation from Montserrat Rey has been received, TM will chase this up on her return from annual leave.	<b>TM</b>
AP to get in touch with Philip Windle with names/contact details of those who are to be invited from the TARA panel to attend the Homelessness Hub meetings.	<b>AP</b>
TM to check the room capacity of John Lewis Hub to ensure that there is sufficient space for future presentations/guest speakers.	<b>TM</b>
AP to invite Philip Windle to October's TARA Conference event.	<b>AP</b>

## Housing Options and Homelessness (Phil Windle / Anthony Hodgkinson)

Housing Options are based at:

City Centre Hub, Merrion House, 110 Merrion Centre, Leeds LS2 8BB

Opening Times: 8:30am to 5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday  
9:30am to 5pm on Wednesday.

### Homelessness

You are homeless if you do not have a home that you can legally occupy. You may also be homeless if you have a home but can't secure entry to it or it is not reasonable for you to remain there.

If you are faced with homelessness and have long term mental health difficulties, you may be able to get assistance from the [Mental Health Homeless Team](#).

Please see our [map of drop-in food provision and services \(PDF 154KB\)](#) that are available in Leeds city centre.

Our [2016-19 Homelessness Strategy \(PDF 6.6MB\)](#) sets out our approach to tackling homelessness in Leeds.

Housing Options have a legal obligation to find out what duty we owe you if you are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and will do everything we can to help you find accommodation or remain in your current home. Depending on your circumstances, we may be able to rehouse you temporarily if you have nowhere to go. For more information on the legal process around homelessness applications, see the [Shelter website](#).

A **Sanctuary Scheme** is a multi-agency victim centred initiative which aims to enable households at risk of violence to remain safely in their own homes by installing a 'Sanctuary' in the home and through the provision of support to the household. This guide aims to provide advice to all agencies involved in setting up and delivering a Sanctuary Scheme, and to promote and share good practice. **The Sanctuary Scheme** is administered by **West Yorkshire Police. 101** Its aim is to prevent homelessness, by offering additional security measures for some people living in fear of crime, including domestic violence. It is only suitable for victims who no longer live with the perpetrator. **Telephone 101 and ask for Police Safeguarding Unit.**

**The next Homelessness Hub meeting is on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 at St Georges Crypt.**

### How to apply

In person: call into Leeds Housing Options

By email: [housing.options@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:housing.options@leeds.gov.uk)

Telephone: **0113 222 4412**

For emergency homelessness situations outside of office hours, please call [\*\*07891 273939\*\*](tel:07891273939).

### Decisions and appeals

You will be notified of our decision in writing. Government guidelines suggest that local authorities take no longer than 33 days to make decisions on individual homelessness applications, but we will usually be able to let you know much more quickly than this

If you disagree with our decision you are entitled to request a review. This is carried out by an independent officer. Email [reviewpanel@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:reviewpanel@leeds.gov.uk).

It is also possible to [find out what other support is available](#) if we decide you are not eligible for housing assistance.

If you have been assessed by Leeds Housing Options and told that you are not eligible for housing assistance, there are still avenues for support available.

Applicants with dependent children who are not eligible for homelessness assistance will be referred to Children's Services for additional support.

Some EU nationals do not meet the eligibility criteria for housing assistance but may still be entitled to some benefits – you can [check your eligibility for benefits online](#).

If you need advice seeking work in the UK you can visit the [Leeds City Council job shops](#) for assistance with job searching, interview techniques and general information, advice and guidance.

## **Other avenues for support / Useful contact numbers and resources**

**Positive Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers** (PAFRAS) works with refugees, asylum seekers and the wider community to counter the effects of enforced destitution on vulnerable migrants. They hold a surgery every Wednesday between 10:00am and 1:00pm and can offer one to one support, advice, signposting and referrals provided by experienced case workers.

Abigail Housing - Refugee Project (email: [refugee@abigailhousing.org.uk](mailto:refugee@abigailhousing.org.uk))

Contact: **07743189314**. Woodhouse Community Centre, 197 Woodhouse Street, LS6 2NY

Palm Cove Society – Provide supported accommodation. Contact **0113 2302271**.

Refugee Council: **020 7346 6700**

Yorkshire Migration Partnership: **0113 395 2434**

The Home Office Visa & Immigration Information for adults (**0808 8000 630**) and children (**0808 8080 500**)

Home Office Asylum Support Helpline: **0808 800 630** (Mon-Fri 8am to 5.30pm)

Women's Aid & Refuge Helpline: **0808 2000 247**

Modern Slavery Helpline: **0800 121 700**

ENGAGE Leeds - <https://engageleeds.org.uk/>

Homelessness Act Factsheets

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/homelessness-reduction-bill-policy-factsheets>

Homelessness Prevention Fund <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-grant-for-council-homelessness-services>

**World Homelessness Day – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018**