



**NATIONAL
HOUSING
FEDERATION**

Yorkshire and Humberside

**Regional Interest Group
Directory**

2012

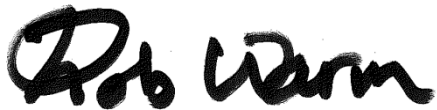


business for neighbourhoods

Introduction

Regional Interest Groups in the Yorkshire and Humberside region provide an excellent opportunity for members to share good practice, network and agree shared approaches and strategies. In addition to supporting members in their practice, they also provide a valuable opportunity for the Federation to gather member feedback on key issues. Regional Interest Groups are developed by members and assisted by the Federation. A wide range of groups are available to Federation members in the region – all of which are detailed within this brochure.

Regional Interest Groups are free to attend and meetings/events are held regularly at venues throughout the region. For details of forthcoming meeting dates and venues please contact the relevant Chair of each group or myself. Regional Interest Groups are an important and useful member benefit – I urge you and your staff to engage with these.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Warm". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rob Warm

Yorkshire and Humberside lead manager

rob.warm@housing.org.uk

07766 780 066

Asset Management Group

Chair: Peter Ross, Broadacres Housing Association
Address: Mount View, Standard Way, Northallerton, DL6 2YD
Email: peter.ross@broadacres.org.uk

The group share best practice and discuss current issues in asset management.

Recent topics for discussion include asset management strategies, environmental strategies, fire safety, retrofitting and regulation.

Who should attend?

The group is aimed at senior managers from associations in the region, responsible for the asset management function within their organisation.

For more information contact:

Peter Ross, peter.ross@broadacres.org.uk or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Board Members Forum

Chair: Geoff Butler, Pennine Housing 2000 Ltd
Address: First Floor, Park View House, Woodvale Office Park, Brighouse, West Yorkshire, HD6 4AB
Email: ghblindwell@talktalk.net

Board Member Forum events offer an opportunity to share experiences and best practice. The Forum offers a range of regional activities for housing association board members including dinners and topical seminars.

In addition, a dedicated board member mailing list and buddy scheme operate in the region. Sessions are also arranged for board chairs / vice chairs.

Who should attend?

Board members from housing associations operating in the Yorkshire and Humberside region.

For more information contact:

Geoff Butler, ghblindwell@talktalk.net or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Care and Support Group

Chair: Rotating
Contact: Rob Warm
Email: rob.warm@housing.org.uk

The Yorkshire and Humberside Care and Support Group provides information and shares good practice amongst associations and other providers. It links to the Federation's Supporting People's Providers Forum, enabling the group to benefit from the Federation's national work and providing a mechanism for consultation. The meetings include opportunities to hear from speakers on national and regional topics, opportunities for consultation, and for sharing intelligence and good practice.

Who should attend?

Anyone with an interest in or responsibility for supported housing provision. New members are always welcome.

Design and Standards Group

National Housing Federation / Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)

Chair: Sonia Whetham, Accent Group

Address: Charlestown House, Acorn Park Industrial Estate, Charlestown, Shipley, BD17 7SW

Email: sonia.whetham@accentgroup.org

This is a joint initiative between the Federation and HCA.

The group meets quarterly and has a focus on issues including retrofitting, construction methods, procurement efficiency, sustainability, new technologies and meeting development standards.

Who should attend?

The group is aimed at representatives from housing associations in the region and links to the asset management group.

For more information contact:

Sonia Whetham, sonia.whetham@accentgroup.org, Helen Forman,

helen.forman@hca.gsx.gov.uk or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Development Group

Joint Chair: Andy Gamble, Accent Foundation Ltd

Address: Charlestown House, Acorn Park Industrial Estate, Charlestown, Shipley, BD17 7SW

Email: andy.gamble@accentgroup.org

Joint Chair : Ged Walsh, Yorkshire Housing

Address: Yorkshire House, 6 Innovation Close, Heslington, York, YO10 5ZF

Email: ged.walsh@yorkshirehousing.co.uk

The group meets regularly with representatives from the HCA to discuss development programmes and other associated issues.

Who should attend?

Senior officers with responsibility for the development of new homes.

For more information contact:

Andy Gamble, andy.gamble@accentgroup.org, Ged Walsh, ged.walsh@yorkshirehousing.co.uk or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Diversity Discussion Forum Yorkshire and East Midlands

The diversity discussion forum was launched in 2007 and is supported by the Housing Diversity Network (HDN). It is a great resource whereby practitioners develop and share good practice, invite speakers and work together to arrive at innovative yet practical solutions to the issues faced by housing practitioners.

The network has members from 35 organisations across the regions but would welcome more to join.

Who should attend?

Membership is open to housing practitioners employed in social housing organisations that deliver the equality and diversity agenda or manage social housing in the Yorkshire, Humberside and East Midlands regions.

For more information contact:

Jill Pukacz, HDN, 0870 143 2732 jill@housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk or info@housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk

Finance Group

Joint Chair: Darren Cooper, Leeds Jewish Housing Association

Address: 311 Stonegate Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS17 6AZ

Email: darren.cooper@ljha.co.uk

Joint Chair: Sean Flynn, Connect Housing Association

Address: 205 Roundhay Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS8 4HS

Email: sean.flynn@connecthousing.org.uk

The group meets around three times per year to discuss finance policy and its impact on housing associations operating in the region. The group receives regular updates from the Federations finance staff, has guest speakers and input from the HCA.

Who should attend?

Finance directors, managers and officers from member organisations of all sizes are invited to attend.

For more information contact:

Darren Cooper, darren.cooper@ljha.co.uk or Sean Flynn, sean.flynn@connecthousing.org.uk

Financial Inclusion Group

Chair: Danny Buckley, Shoreline Housing Partnership

Address: Shoreline House, Westgate Park, Charlton Street, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire, DN31 1SQ

Email: danny.buckley@shorelinehp.com

Discussions at this group cover a wide range of financial inclusion and capability issues.

The meetings include regular specialist speakers and offer an opportunity for practitioners to share experiences and good practice.

Who should attend?

Staff involved in welfare, debt and tenancy management work from housing associations of all sizes are encouraged to attend these meetings.

For more information contact:

Danny Buckley, danny.buckley@shorelinehp.com or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Housing Management Group

Chair: Steve Evans, North Lincolnshire Homes

Address: Meredian House, Normanby Road, Scunthorpe, DN15 8QZ

Email: stephen.evans@nlhomes.org.uk

The group meets quarterly to share best practice and discuss current issues in housing management.

Recent topics for discussion include welfare reform, the localism bill and impact of SP cuts on services.

Who should attend?

The group is aimed at senior managers from housing associations in the region, responsible for the housing management function within their organisation.

For more information contact:

Stephen Evans, stephen.evans@nlhomes.org.uk or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Human Resources Group

Chair: Megan Henderson, Leeds Federated Housing Association

Email: megan.henderson@lfha.co.uk

The Human Resources Group in Yorkshire and Humberside is operated as a joint group with the North East Region. The group meet on a quarterly basis, holding the meetings in a variety of locations discussing relevant HR issues. This includes sharing best practice, arranging guest speakers and benchmarking key information.

Who should attend?

HR professionals from housing associations of all sizes are encouraged to attend these meetings.

For more information contact:

Megan Henderson, megan.henderson@lfha.co.uk, or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

IT Forum

Chair: Mike Eckersley, North Lincolnshire Homes

Address: Meridian House, Normandby Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN15 8QZ

Email: mike.eckersley@nlhomes.org.uk

This group meets quarterly for discussions on current projects and other IT issues. The meetings always include at least one guest speaker.

The group is also linked to the North West IT Managers Forum, and shares with them an online forum – giving access to around 60 colleagues across the North of England (useful when you need a question answering!).

The group also works on benchmarking and joint procurement of training etc, where possible.

Who should attend?

Heads of ICT, ICT directors, ICT managers, supervisors and team leaders.

For more information contact:

Mike Eckersley, mike.eckersley@nlhomes.org.uk

Northern Training Group

Chair: Ian Stone, Incommunities Group

Address: Trust House, 5 New Augustus Street, Bradford, BD1 5LL

Email: ian.stone@incommunities.co.uk

The North Training Group is a joint group across the North East and Yorkshire and Humberside regions. The group meets on a quarterly basis, holding meetings in a variety of locations.

In addition to discussing relevant and current training issues the group

- discuss learning, training and development topics
- share experiences and best practice
- receive presentations on issues relevant to the group
- work collectively to reduce the cost of delivering learning within organisations.

Who should attend?

The meetings are open to anybody who has training as a key part of their jobs.

Representatives on the group are mostly learning and development professionals at all levels.

For more information contact:

Ian Stone, ian.stone@incommunities.co.uk or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

PR and Communications Network

The North network meets approximately once every three months. Meetings tend to be held at the Federation's Manchester office. The network provides an opportunity for those with responsibility for PR and communications to come together share good practice and ideas and learn from one another.

The meetings usually have a guest speaker discussing a specific topic such as social media, PR in a crisis, use of websites, annual reports etc.

The network is also kept up to date with media opportunities and latest news through the email group.

Who should attend?

Those with responsibility for PR, media and communications.

For more information contact:

Anne Arnold, Northern communications officer for the Federation, on 0161 873 9445 or anne.arnold@housing.org.uk

Supporting People Providers Forum

Chair: John Hill, Foundation
Address: Tennant Hall, Blenheim Grove, Leeds, LS2 9ET
Email: john.hill@foundationuk.org

Vice Chair: Sheila Bamford, Horton Housing
Address: Chartford House, 54 Little Horton Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD5 0BS
Email: sheila.bamford@hortonhousing.co.uk

Membership of this group is open to the chairs of local Supporting People provider groups which operate in Yorkshire and Humberside. Representatives from the National Housing Federation attend and the group also links to the regions Supporting People Strategy Group (commissioners). Meetings are held quarterly.

Who should attend?

Chairs of local Supporting People Provider Forums

For more information contact:

John Hill, john.hill@foundationuk.org or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Small Housing Association Forum

Chair: Paul Dolan, Sadeh Lok

The aim of the group is to bring together smaller housing associations to share good practice and carry out joint work from across the Yorkshire and Humberside and North East regions. The group meets on a quarterly basis and feeds into the Federation national smaller housing association group. Meeting include specialist topical speakers.

Who should attend?

The group is aimed at senior managers / chief executives from housing associations in the two regions who have fewer than 1500 homes in management.

For more information contact: Pauld@sadehlok.co.uk

HCA Sounding Board

National Housing Federation and Homes and Communities Agency

This is a joint group hosted by the Homes and Communities Agency in the Yorkshire and Humberside and North East operating areas. Chief executive representatives from the

Federation membership meet on a quarterly basis with HCA senior officers to discuss current issues around housing and regeneration in the two regions.

For more information contact: Monica Burns, monica.burns@housing.org.uk

Worklessness Group

Chair: Helen Wordsworth, Wakefield and District Housing

Address: Merefield House, Whistler Drive, Castleford, West Yorkshire, WF10 5HX

E-mail: hwordsworth@wdh.co.uk

The aim of the group is to provide a forum for raising awareness, sharing and developing good practice in tackling worklessness. The group has a role in promoting the contribution that housing associations make to this challenging agenda and the ability to collaborate on opportunities to tackle worklessness. The group has worked together to form a partnership to deliver outcomes under the Governments new Work Programme.

Who should attend?

The group is aimed at senior managers from housing associations in the region, responsible for worklessness / community initiatives within their organisation.

For more information contact:

For more information contact Helen Wordsworth, hwordsworth@wdh.co.uk or Rob Warm, Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

Also

Do you have an idea for a new group? Is there an area of practice which you feel would benefit from a member practitioner group? If so, please contact Rob Warm,

Rob.Warm@housing.org.uk

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