

Minute of North of Scotland Regional Network 1
Meeting held on Friday, 29th October 2021 at 10.00 a.m.
via Zoom

Present:

Colin Stewart	Chair	CS
Alasdair Mackenzie	Vice Chair	AM
Leonora Montgomery	Secretary/Treasurer	LHM
Tom O'Brien	Committee Member	TO
Liz Richardson	Committee Member	LR
Gerald Low	Committee Member	GL

In attendance:

Susan McLellan	Scottish Government	SMcL

Apologies:/Absent:

Steve Byrne	Committee Member	Apologies
Cameron Grant	Committee Member	Absent
Derek Wilkie	Committee Member	Absent
Sue Mcaleaney	Committee Member	Absent

Item		Action
1.	<u>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</u> CS welcomed all to the Meeting and gave the Apologies as stated. Declarations of Interest – CS gave his for being on the SHR Board.	CS CS
2.	<u>Minute of Meeting held on 3rd September 2021</u> This was proposed by GL and seconded by LR as an accurate record of the Meeting.	CS

	<p><u>Matters Arising</u> –</p> <p>5. A.O.C.B. –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospective New Member – LHM had forwarded an email to the TP Officer, as requested, but to date has received no reply. 	LHM
3.	<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>LHM advised that as there was no expenditure during September the Balances remain at - Bank £1,651.40 Cr and Petty Cash £16.33 Cr.</p>	LHM
4.	<p><u>Business Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website Update – CS advised that this was up and running but is still waiting for the Subscription Service to be added by the new Company. CS met with them and they agreed to do the work and ‘fingers crossed’ this will be completed soon. • Chairs and Secretaries Group Update – LHM advised that she had this on the Agenda to let all know that TO and GL would be attending the next Meeting on 2nd November 2021. SMca had not replied to emails or texts regarding her attending and as a result, has missed her turn for the second time. • SHR Liaison Group Report – LHM advised that at the Meeting they discussed the results of the National Report on the Scottish Social Housing Charter and Covid-19 Quarterly Return. Updates were given on the Social Housing Resilience Group; ZEST Report and challenges for Landlords; Tenant Advisors term of 3 years coming to an end and new ones being sought for commencement in March 2022; Board Updates; Statutory Action and Engagement Plans; and Recent/Future Publications and Events – all of these being available on their Website. They also advised that two new Board Members had been selected and would be announced within the next couple of days as their term starts on 2nd November 2021. We raised concerns on Shared Unsuitable Homeless Accommodation and the high price of electricity impacting on rents. Much discussion took place regarding these and we were reminded of the Energy Hardship Fund being available which is £10million this year and they gave out £1million last year. We gave them the Region Updates and set the Meeting Dates for 2022, the first one in January being a Question and Answer Session with George Walker and Michael Cameron. All were asked to think on Questions for this. • Communications Group Report – CS advised that he had met with LHM to go through the Communications Strategy and that they had made quite a number of changes to bring it up to date. This will be taken to the TP Team/Group for comments/suggestions and agreement so that all Regions are following the criteria going forward. • Rent Focus Group Report – TO reported that it had been a very interesting Meeting and they would be working on Research in the New Year to find out all Landlords Rents. Calum Chumczuk from Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) gave them good ideas and tips as it will be a big piece of work. The Group hope to produce this for inclusion in the Scottish Government's Report. 	<p>CS</p> <p>LHM</p> <p>LHM</p> <p>CS/LHM</p> <p>TO</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HRA Group Report – SMcL advised that Mary MacCallum from the Scottish Government had not replied to Hugh McClung after her Meeting with the Group so he will write again. The Cabinet Secretary, Shona Robinson had a Meeting with COSLA yesterday to raise this issue and SMcL is awaiting to hear the outcome of this. COSLA to be invited to the Group and ALACHO is already involved, as reported at last Meeting, and both are interested in this issue going forward. • Training Events Feedback – Majority of those who attended felt they were interesting although three in one week was too much. CS stated that the Training for Office Bearers should be carried out as soon as possible after the AGM's. SMcL stated that the Training had been in response to the answers from the Survey they sent out and it all takes time to organise. In the New Year they will be focussing on Information Sessions such as Policy Procedures for one. Suggestions were asked for and 'How to Condense Reports' and 'Help with Speaking in Public' were given. 	<p style="text-align: center;">SMcL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SMcL</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>A.O.C.B.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Emission Report – CS asked if all had read this rather lengthy Report and all had only managed to read part so far. CS stated that he was disappointed that no Landlord from the East of Scotland had been invited. All Members felt that the Regional Networks should be asked to participate in these Consultations from the start. SMcL advised that she was not sure how this would work as the Consultations usually commence with the Professionals in that area. The TP Team try as much as possible to have the Regional Networks involved when they hear of these Consultations and try to get on as many as possible. • Possible New Member – SMcL advised that the TP Team had received a letter from Stanley Green from Fraserburgh, a former Member and Chair of the Regional Network requesting to return as a Member. After discussion, it was agreed to invite him as an Observer to our next Meeting. SMcL to attend to this. • SMcL thanked CS for Chairing and finishing early! SMcL also thanked both CS and LHM for their continuing hard work for the Networks and the Committee Members for engaging with the topics under discussion. She always enjoys coming to our Meetings! 	<p style="text-align: center;">SMcL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SMcL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SMcL</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting –</p> <p>Friday, 17th December 2021 at 10.00 a.m. via Zoom.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p>