

Approved Minute of North of Scotland Regional Network 1
Meeting held on Thursday, 13th October 2022
at 10.00 a.m. via Zoom

Present:

Colin Stewart	Chair	Aberdeen City	CS
Steve Byrne	Vice Chair	Argyll & Bute	SB
Liz Richardson	Committee Member	Highlands	LR
Eric Spence	Committee Member	Argyll & Bute	ES
Linda Lennie	Committee Member	Orkney Islands	LL
Kath Fennell	Committee Member	Orkney Islands	KF

In attendance:

Michael Boal	Scottish Government	MB
--------------	---------------------	-----------

Apologies / Absent:

Carolynne Watson	Scottish Government	Apologies
Tom O'Brien	Committee Member	Absent
Derek Wilkie	Committee Member	Absent
Linda Lennie	Committee Member	Ansent

Item		Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>CS welcomed all to the Meeting. Apologies were then given as stated. Region 1 welcomed new member Eric Spence.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest – CS gave his for being on the SHR Board.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Minute of Meeting held on 24th June 2022</u></p> <p>Correction under ITEM 4: Business Matters – Include 'of' between 'advised one of the items'.</p> <p>Proposer – SB Secunder – LR</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>No matters arising</p>	CS

3.	<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>No expenditures since the last meeting. The bank balance remains the same at £1651.40. The petty cash balance is £16.33.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Business Matters</u></p> <p><u>Website update:</u> The website remains up to date and active however the subscription service is still an on-going issue. After exploring all avenues to find a solution to the subscription issue with no luck, CS is unsure of the next step so will be discussing further with the tenant priorities team</p> <p><u>Basecamp:</u> CS is chairing Basecamp training sessions over the next few weeks as well as creating a slideshow presentation with a written document to help further navigate Basecamp.</p> <p><u>SHR Liaison Group:</u></p> <p>R1 meeting was after the pre-meeting with the SHR but before the actual meeting so we have questions regarding the Tenant Advisors, Cost of Living Crisis & the Rent Freeze. MB suggest keeping the SHR informed of the new Housing & Disability Group. Also suggest that we reduce the Landlord updates to just best practice and let written updates be sent in. Group are keen to find out what SHR would be doing on TP thematic.</p> <p>CS to send LR the NETRALT updates</p> <p><u>Communications Group:</u></p> <p>There has been no communications group meeting since the last North of Scotland committee meeting. In the meantime, Jemma Stewart (JS) and CS have been working together on the database, asking for up to date information from landlords. JS receives the responses from landlords and gives them to CS who then updates in the database.</p> <p>The communications group have also been thinking of ways to promote the regional networks.</p> <p>CS shared some news that he was on The Scottish Housing News podcast which was a discussion on all things Tenant Participation and went out on the 3rd Oct.</p> <p><u>Rent Focus Group:</u></p> <p>CS reminded the group of the survey published in August. The survey was live during September. We are awaiting the results of this, Leza</p>	<p>CS</p> <p>CS</p> <p>LR/LL</p> <p>CS/LR</p> <p>CS/JS</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>from TPAS emailed CS confirming the outcome is near. A meeting will take place next week to discuss the results of the survey.</p> <p><u>HRA Group Update:</u></p> <p>The HRA group have not met recently so nothing to update currently.</p> <p><u>H2040 Group Update:</u></p> <p>MB explained the new rent freeze and ban on evictions legislation has consumed the time that would have otherwise been spent on H2040.</p> <p>CS has been invited by the Cabinet Secretary to join the strategic board as the only tenant. The board will be responsible for overseeing the delivery of H2040. The first meeting is on the 16th November in Edinburgh. Unsure whether the RN Housing to 2040 will continue or not.</p> <p>A New Deal for Tenants consultation analysis has also been published. MB offered to share with those who hadn't already seen it.</p> <p><u>Chairs and Secretaries</u></p> <p>The chairs and secretaries have not met since the last R1 committee meeting however the chairs of the four regions have met a few times to discuss the lack of members in the regional networks which is currently sitting at 40% capacity. As well as this, regions 1,2 and 4 are operating without a secretary and treasurer. The chairs are going to continue to meet to continue to work on ideas of promoting the regional networks.</p>	<p>CS</p> <p>CS/AC/ SG/BC</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Committee Discussions</u></p> <p><u>Office Bearers Roles:</u></p> <p>CS objects to members accepting office bearer roles on a name only basis and offered the roles of treasurer and secretary to the group however no one offered themselves.</p> <p>CS read through the roles and responsibilities as per the communications strategy and narrowed them into two groups of work that can continue to be carried out by the regional networks and work that will shift to the responsibility of the tenant participation team (TP) . CS is conscious of the TP team not being at full capacity either and doesn't expect them to take on these roles and will discuss with Carolynne in due course.</p> <p>For the treasurer role, CS is already a signatory , we add Jemma and Carolynne and payment for R1 would now need to be approved by Colin then confirmed by either Carolynne or Jemma. CS also</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	<p>highlighted he may need to find another signatory in the event he is unable to fulfil the role.</p>	
	<p>For the secretaries role, CS will continue to set the agenda and send out the minutes once approved.</p>	<p>CS</p>
	<p>JS will continue to act as the minute taker for R1.</p>	<p>JS</p>
	<p>If JS can provide minutes to CS for checking then posting to Basecamp to be approved and seconded by committee, approved minutes could be published to the RN website possibly within two weeks.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
	<p><u>Working Group Representatives:</u></p>	
	<p>CS reminded the committee that working groups need representatives from each region and therefore need committee members from region 1 to be on the different sub groups and be able to come back to committee meetings and update the committee on the discussions from the sub group meetings.</p>	
	<p>CS asked ES if he would like to join the SHR Liaison Group, which he accepted. MB reminded the group that there is an overview session of what the group is on the 24th October and will ensure JS sends details to ES.</p>	<p>CS/ES MB</p>
	<p>CS asked KF if she would like to join the Accessibility Group, which she has accepted.</p>	<p>CS/KF</p>
	<p>CS had provided documentation prior to the meeting and asked members to read the document and highlight to him any groups that are of interest.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
	<p><u>Questions for next meeting with Cabinet Secretary</u></p>	
	<p>CS reminded the group there hasn't been a date confirmed yet but the next meeting with the Cabinet Secretary is in the near future and could be before the next R1 committee meeting. If anyone has any questions they would like to submit for the meeting they should let CS know directly or via Basecamp.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
	<p>KF brought up an interesting point about Orkney new builds not being able to be rented out as they cannot get utility meters installed. KF/LL to post question on Basecamp.</p>	<p>KF/LL</p>
	<p><u>Update on members attending meetings in their and other regions.</u></p>	
	<p>CS received a request to attend an RTO meeting in another region but suggested that as this area had representation it was up to members to promote RN within their own areas. It would be more feasible to have members promote RN in regions without representation.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	LR asked on the procedure for bringing in new members and for observing.	LR
6.	<p><u>A.O.B.C</u></p> <p><u>Face to face meetings:</u></p> <p>The next meeting is on 8th December, MB has sent request to JS to enquire on the SG offices on Huntly Street in Aberdeen and we will update the group once confirmed from JS. Advised not to book anything until venue is confirmed</p> <p><u>Buddy System:</u></p> <p>If there is anyone in the committee who members would like to buddy up with they should let CS know. In addition, CS assured everyone if they had any questions to go to him.</p> <p>CS suggests that a video podcast is created for sending to new members that would run alongside the induction packs.</p> <p><u>Promoting Regional Networks</u></p> <p>A discussion was held about the lack of knowledge of RN among tenants and staff of landlords and how to promote the networks.</p>	<p>MB/JS</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>CS</p> <p>ALL</p>
7.	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Thursday 8th December 2022 Venue & time to be confirmed</p>	ALL