

APPROVED MINUTES



Tenants Together Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 10.00 a.m. via Zoom

Meeting Chair – Colin Stewart

Name	Initials	Position	Local Authority Area
Present:			
Colin Stewart	CS	Chair	Aberdeen City
Shona Gorman	SG	Vice-Chair	Falkirk
Gordon Saunders	GS	Treasurer	Scottish Borders
Anne Cameron	AC	Committee Member	South Ayrshire
John Duffy	JD	Committee Member	North Lanarkshire
Irina Lazarenko	IL	Committee Member	City of Edinburgh
Kath Fennell	KF	Committee Member	Orkney
Liz Mcknockiter	LMck	Committee Member	Moray
Liz Richardson	LR	Committee Member	Highlands
Margaret Dymond	MD	Committee Member	Renfrewshire
Sarah-Jane Dunbar	SJD	Committee Member	Stirling
Scott MacLeod	SMacL	Committee Member	Highlands

In attendance:			
Carolynne Watson	CW	Tenant Priorities Team	Scottish Government

Apologies			
Bruce Cuthbertson	BC	Committee Member	East Ayrshire
June Anderson	JA	Committee Member	Clackmannanshire
Ruth Fraser	RF	Committee Member	Aberdeenshire
Willie Derrick	WD	Committee Member	Stirling

Absent			
Donna Murray	DM	Committee Member	South Lanarkshire
Frances McGonagle	FMcG	Committee Member	West Dunbartonshire
Linda Lennie	LL	Committee Member	Orkney
Norma Ferguson	NF	Committee Member	North Ayrshire
Rebecca Blackwood	RB	Committee Member	Aberdeen City
Suzanne Austin	SA	Committee Member	Renfrewshire

Scotland's tenant participation and engagement network

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	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
1	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of interest</p> <p>CS welcomed everyone to the TTS Committee meeting noting apologies as above.</p> <p>Under Declarations of Interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS noted his role on the Board of the Scottish Housing Regulator • GS noted his role on the Board of TIS; • MD noted her role on the Board of TPAS; • SG noted her role on the Board of Link Housing; • SMacL noted his role on the Board of Albyn Housing Society. 	
2	<p>Business Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Minutes of previous meeting:</u> Approved previously by AC and GS. • <u>Matters Arising from previous meeting:</u> At the February meeting, the topic of HRA was raised during the course of the meeting rather than under AOCB, which then took some time during the meeting to cover. CS noted that to avoid this situation in the future, a draft agenda will be posted between 7 and 14 days prior to the meeting so that members can request additions or changes to the agenda to ensure sufficient time is allocated for all agenda items. CS reminded members that TTS considers RSL and local authority issues equally, and maintains a national focus. Members agree their work and topics of focus collectively, and each topic will receive an equal level of priority from members. Since the February meeting, a Basecamp group on HRA has been established. Members discussed and agreed a meeting date of Tuesday 13 May at 10am for an initial meeting of the HRA working group. • <u>Treasurer's report:</u> GS presented the Treasurer's report, noting: Correction to report of 5 February - the opening balance on 1-Dec-24 was correct at £2193.55, and money out was correct at £388.94. The closing balance on 31-Jan-25 should therefore have been £1804.61, not £1804.81 as noted in the February report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opening balance at 01 Feb-25 - £1804.61 ○ Money in - £6,000.00. ○ Money Out - £6,657.52. ○ Closing balance at 31-Mar-25 - £1,147.09 • <u>Correspondence:</u> NIL 	

3	<p>Subgroups</p> <p>Communications/ Strategy sub-group: The Communications Strategy sub-group met on 12 March in person in Glasgow for a workshop session led by Fawn Russell, TIS. This was followed by an online mop-up session last week. During these sessions, members have been considering the key objectives, actions and associated timescales for the Strategy. Now that the workshops are complete, Fawn will be working to develop a first draft of the strategy and action plan by 14th/15th April for feedback from the group.</p> <p>During the workshop sessions, members highlighted a number of areas which they felt it would be beneficial to include on the TTS website, and CS noted these will be added to the site shortly.</p> <p>Accessibility group & AHIL: A Basecamp group is up and running for the Accessibility group, and an initial meeting date is set for Tuesday 20 May, 10am.</p> <p>SHR Liaison group: No further meetings of the Liaison group have taken place since the last TTS meeting in February. The next meeting of the group with SHR representatives is set for 29 April, with the pre-meeting scheduled for 15 April.</p> <p>Net Zero/ Decarbonisation: Members have previously discussed a range of areas of interest and concern around net zero and decarbonisation, and at the last meeting had agreed to await further clarity on next steps with net zero before determining how to progress. Members agreed that with the recent statement from the Acting Minister for Climate Action, it appears that work is moving forward in this space, and an initial meeting date of Monday 12 May, 10am has been agreed to discuss in further detail.</p>	<p>XX</p> <p>XX</p>
4	<p>TTS Updates</p> <p>CIH conference: CS and SG delivered a presentation at the CIH conference at the beginning of March which was well-attended with a lot of interest and engaging questions from delegates. CS and SMacL also both participated in panel sessions at the conference which were well-received.</p> <p>TIS: CS has worked with TIS to produce a one-minute video on TTS for the TIS Newsboard, which will be available shortly.</p>	

	<p>Upcoming: CS highlighted upcoming events that TTS will be involved with, including the TPAS and SFHA conferences in June, and an information session with Cosla and Housing Convenors to come later in the summer.</p> <p>Newsletters: A standard advert will be developed for landlord Newsletters. Once this is completed, members will be asked for their support in requesting these are published in landlord newsletters or similar publications.</p>	
5	<p>Open discussion- Rents</p> <p>Following discussion at the February meeting, members are keen to take forward project work on rent consultation, and agreed that this is likely to take the form of a research project and report given the breadth of the topic. Further detail on how this will be progressed and next steps will follow, with an initial meeting to scope this work likely to take place after the AGM.</p>	
6	<p>Agenda Standing Items</p> <p>Working group representation</p> <p>Representation for the Accessibility, HRA, Net Zero and rent consultation project groups will be finalised, and added to relevant Basecamp groups prior to the upcoming meetings in May.</p> <p>Meeting with Minister</p> <p>CW is continuing to follow up with the Minister's Private Office on a date and time for the next meeting with Mr McLennan. CS will open a thread on Basecamp in the meantime for members to post questions or topics they would like to take forward to the meeting with the Minister.</p>	
7	<p>AOCB</p> <p>KF highlighted the recent rises in Council Tax, rent and energy costs and noted that in her area, food bank referrals are rising simultaneously. Members agreed this is a topic to refer to the Minister.</p> <p>CS highlighted that the next TTS meeting will be the AGM, on Saturday 7 June. As the committee currently has 10 vacant spaces, no-one will be required to step down at this year's AGM, however CS will be stepping down as Chair, and standing for re-election, per the terms of the TTS constitution. An invitation letter is being prepared for the AGM, and will be issued no later than Friday 18 April.</p>	

8	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Saturday 7 June at 11am (AGM) – Via Zoom</p> <p>Forthcoming meetings for 2025</p> <p>Wednesday 18 June at 10am – Via Zoom Wednesday 13 August at 10am – Via Zoom Wednesday 8 October at 10am – Via Zoom Wednesday 3 December at 10am – Via Zoom</p>	
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Date	07-Apr-25
Proposed	GS
Seconded	AC