

# CHC Model Rules Update

- **Process to date:**
  - Changes prompted by member calls for clarity on options for general meetings in light of Covid restrictions
  - Opportunity to update and strengthen rules more generally
  - Commissioned Devonshires, sector survey in Oct 2020, critical readers group and other relevant key stakeholders, including the regulator

*NB: We understand Nat Fed will also be looking at their model rules, and we will continue a dialogue on this.*

# CHC Model Rules

- **Changes to be made include – kept to a minimum:**
  - New content to create post-Covid options – e.g. extending C20 to provide clarity re: attending general meetings via electronic means
  - Provided clarity on anomalies reported by members – since original publication and current engagement
  - Updated outdated language – e.g. in terms of how we refer to those at risk of or living in poverty
  - Added reference to diversity of thought to ensure read across to Code of Governance

*NB: We understand Nat Fed will be looking at their model rules too, and we will continue a dialogue on this.*

# CHC Model Rules

- **Changes under consideration**
  - Looking at the optional sections, in particular the options on LSVTs and on co-optees
  - Looking at how to provide clarity with regards to the what is included in the nine year board term
- **Timetable**
  - Share as pre-publication draft with critical readers group, and then with sector as a whole – report any significant issues
  - Publish final version to the sector asap
  - Interested in queries and support required today

# CHC Code Review

- **Process to date**
  - Engagement sessions at all relevant SDGs and Board Café in early 2021
  - Two Code Steering Group meetings
  - Meeting with the Regulator and Campbell Tickell – read across between Framework and Code
  - No call for major change – can be strengthened
- **Current status**
  - Launched for written consultation on 4<sup>th</sup> March – deadline April 8<sup>th</sup> including changes I will outline
  - Publication asap following close of written consultation

# CHC Code - EDI

- **Charity Governance Code revisions**
  - Specialist consultants from the Social Justice Collective undertook a process of consultation and devised a four stage approach:
    - *Define and assess current level of understanding*
    - *Set out plans and objectives*
    - *Monitor and measure*
    - *Be transparent and publish progress*
- **Wording in CHC Code**
  - Strengthened to represent commitment of sector
  - Ensured flexibility for different organisations to take their own path

# CHC Code - Integrity

- **Charity Governance Code revisions:**
  - Broadens focus, increased emphasis on values, culture and the right to feel safe:
    - *Assess and address power imbalances*
    - *Understand safeguarding responsibilities*
    - *Establish approach procedures integrated with charity risk management approach*
    - *Make sure everyone in contact with organisation knows how to speak up and raise concerns*
- **Wording in CHC Code:**
  - Actively anti-discriminatory approach
  - Importance of diversity of thought and experience
  - Overt statement on identifying conflicts of interest

# CHC Code - Additional updates

- **Staff and tenants**
  - Board has insight into views of staff
  - Needs and safety of current and future tenants at heart of decision making
  - Tenants feel they are heard and responded to, that what they say matters to the organisation, and are involved in decision making as appropriate
- **Communities**
  - Routes to hear and respond to needs of diverse range of communities it serves
- **Environment sustainability**
  - Board considers and responds to environmental sustainability of its activities

# Break out groups

- Do you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding the review of the Model rules?
- Do you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding the review of the Code of Governance? If you are planning to respond, are there any key issues you will be raising?
- What support should CHC provide to accompany the publication of the updated Rules and Code?



# **Diolch. Thanks.**

**Laura Courtney**

**Policy & External Affairs Manager, Community Housing Cymru**

**[Laura-Courtney@chcymru.org.uk](mailto:Laura-Courtney@chcymru.org.uk)**