



Chief Executives' Strategic Delivery Group Notes

11th October 2017

Blake Morgan's offices, Cardiff

Attendance

Organisation	Name
1. Bro Myrddin Housing Association	Hilary Jones
2. Cadwyn Housing Association	Chris O'Meara
3. Cardiff Community Housing Association	Kevin Protheroe
4. Coastal Housing Group	Debbie Green
5. Community Housing Cymru	Stuart Ropke
6. Community Housing Cymru	Clarissa Corbisiero-Peters
7. Community Housing Cymru	Aaron Hill
8. Community Housing Cymru	Hayley Macnamara
9. Community Housing Cymru	Will Atkinson
10. Community Housing Cymru	Claire McDougall
11. Cynon Taf Community Housing Group	Michelle Reid
12. First Choice Housing Association	Adrian Burke
13. Grwp Cynefin	Walis George
14. Hafan Cymru	Sian Morgan
15. Hendre	Jas Bains
16. Linc Cymru	Robert Smith
17. Melin Homes	Paula Kennedy
18. Merthyr Valleys Homes	Mike Owen
19. Mid-Wales Housing Association	Shane Perkins
20. Newport City Homes	Ceri Doyle
21. Newydd Housing Association	Paul Roberts
22. North Wales Housing Association	Helena Kirk
23. Pennaf Housing Group	Graham Worthington
24. Rhondda Housing Association	Lesley Davies
25. Taff Housing Association	Elaine Ballard
26. Tai Calon Community Housing	Joe Logan
27. Tai Ceredigion	Steve Jones
28. Tai Tarian	Linda Whittaker
29. United Welsh	Lynda Sagona
30. Valleys to Coast	Donna Baddeley

Apologies

Cartrefi Conwy	Andrew Bowden
Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd	Ffrancon Williams
Family Housing Association (Wales)	Karen Dugate



Pobl Group	Amanda Davies
Trivallis	Adrian Barber
Wales & West Housing	Anne Hinchey

CHC connect

Clarissa Corbisiero-Peters updated the group on the changes to networks and the CHC connect and member offer.

More information can be found [here](#).

Code of governance

Clarissa Corbisiero-Peters updated the group on the latest discussions concerning Board member payments. CHC are engaging with Welsh Government on barriers within the existing legislation and circulars and are pushing for resolution to this asap. We expect a Cabinet Secretary signed letter granting HAs the flexibility to pay Board Members imminently. It is also highly likely that changes will be required to the current circular RSL 005/10 CHC are also considering what wider support and advice might be helpful to the sector in developing a business case for payment where this is appropriate.

Claire McDougal and Stuart Ropke updated the group on the latest feedback from members on the code of governance and outlined a skeleton.

Key points based on discussion:

- Agreement to a principles based code.
- **Action:** CHC to discuss approach with CSIW to ensure that this approach meets their needs.
- **Action:** CHC to consider how support can be provided as part of the wider member offer.
- Support for recommended practice within the code.
- Support for the removal of the checklist from the code.
- Consideration of the skills and capacity of the regulator to respond to a principles based code.



PAC and data transparency

Aaron Hill outlined the findings of the PAC inquiry and outlined next steps based on discussions with Welsh Government.

Key points based on discussion:

- Acknowledgement that we need to respond to the political imperative to respond quickly.
- Need much more clarity around purpose before phase 1. What is important to tenants?
- Needs to be accessible to tenants and meet the key purpose.
- In first instance need to use existing data better.
- Risks around unintended consequences of driving behaviours and culture.
- **Action:** CHC to engage with Welsh government to influence phase 1 of the project.

Supported housing and Supporting People funding

Will Atkinson provided an update on latest discussions with UK Federations, Welsh Government and DWP/CLG on supported accommodation.

Key points based on the discussion:

- Support for the policy direction set out.
- In the event that top up fund is devolved it needs a ring fence.
- Risks around decommissioning through explicit links between supported housing and supporting people.
- Support to keep the majority of spend within the welfare system rather than via a devolved top up funding.



Welsh Language standards

Aaron Hill provided an overview of the Welsh Language white paper.

Key points based on the discussion:

- Sector agreed with broad principals of CHC response to welcome the proposals in the White Paper.
- A CHC response will be circulated to the sector for comments and to inform and support individual organisation responses.
- Opportunity to put a proactive, principles-based proposal together whilst we wait for legislation.
- **Action:** CHC to set up a task and finish group to explore this further – this should be based on key principles.
- Opportunity to share the good practice that exists across HAs in promoting the Welsh language.
- **Action:** CHC to consider opportunities to support this.

Universal Credit and LHA for General Needs

Hayley Macnamara provided an update on the latest roll out information on Universal Credit and lessons learnt from those associations already engaged in full service.

Will Atkinson provided an overview of LHA levels against the true 30th percentile. This analysis will be shared with members, packs for MPs, AMs will also be produced and a report published in advance of an event in Westminster at the end of November.

Joe Logan and Michelle Reid outlined the work that a number of associations operating in the South Wales Valleys had undertaken.

Key points based on the discussion:

- Support for policy response set out including increased pressure at both Wales and UK level for a rethink on the roll out of the LHA cap to social housing.
- Members will support the Westminster event with MPs to lobby for change.



Housing Horizons

Clarissa provided an overview of the feedback and engagement to date with colleagues across the sector to develop a vision for housing associations in 2036.

Key points based on the discussion:

- Important that the vision reflects the wide role that HAs have across communities.
- Important that the vision is focused around the difference that HAs make to people's lives
Not just about units of accommodation
- Consider how the role that HAs play in supporting the foundational economy can be reflected.
- We need to be more ambitious.