



Technical Services network meeting notes

8th July 2016 – MRC, Llandrindod Wells

Attendance

Organisation	Name
1. Bro Myrddin Housing Association	Stephen Dawson
2. Bron Afon Community Housing	John Taphouse
3. Cardiff Community Housing Association	Kevin Evans
4. Cartrefi Conwy	David Kelsall
5. Coastal Housing Group	Gareth Davies
6. Community Housing Cymru	Hugh Russell
7. Family Housing Association (Wales)	Gareth Jones
8. First Choice Housing Associati	Andrew Moucher
9. Grŵp Cynefin	R. Bryn Davies
10. Hafod Resources	Dafydd Cantwell
11. Merthyr Valleys Homes	Gary Colston
12. Mid Wales Housing	Nick Dearden
13. Monmouthshire Housing Association	Allen Stevenson
14. Newport City Homes	Tom McEwan
15. Newport City Homes	Keith Richardson
16. Pembrokeshire Housing	Nigel Sinnett
17. Pobl Group	Stephen Traves
18. Pobl Group	Ian Williams
19. Pobl Group (Gwalia)	Elfed Roberts
20. RCT Homes	Andrew Freeguard
21. RCT Homes	Byron Way
22. Tai Ceredigion	Colin Downham
23. United Welsh	Peter Seaborne
24. Sean Gough	Wales & West Housing

Apologies

Cadwyn	Andrew Bateson
Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd	Daniel Parry
Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd	Ian Atkinson



Updates:

- Nigel Sinnett introduced himself as the new chair
- Gary Colston introduced himself as Vice Chair
- Hugh Russell introduced himself as CHC rep for the network provided an update to the amendments to CHC's network structure (reducing network meetings to 2 per year to free up policy capacity for influencing, review to follow in 2017)
- Brief BIM update –Gareth Davies said that Coastal are trialling BIM2 and will provide an update at a future meeting
- One Big Conference – a discussion about potential speakers was had and Hugh agreed to input the group's thoughts into the next planning session at CHC.
- Group discussed HFG2, a blended form of housing finance, with an update from Nigel, who sits on the WG steering group
- The group discussed a strategic asset management and maintenance group. Hugh noted that, in line with the amendments to CHC's network structure, there was no resource to facilitate a separate network, but agreed to create an asset management Yammer group for discussion.

Arcadis Planning Research

Alison Powell introduced Arcadis' longitudinal viability of the planning system which they are running for Welsh Government and the group fed in their ideas, which Alison noted down. Hugh also took notes to inform future CH approaches to land and planning strategy.

The group asked that Hugh approach WG to request CHC representation on the research's steering group.

Lunch & Networking

Housing for single under 35s

Hugh Russell updated on the research undertaken by Cambridge University on the future of housing for young people. Gareth Davies updated on Coastal, Pobl & United Welsh's talks with Welsh Government on the issue.

Infinite Renewables (PV battery)

Malcolm Wilson & Andrew Crossman presented Infinite Renewables' new technology. Hugh Russell agreed to put those willing to trial the battery in touch with Andrew.

Voids Doctor

Richard Walker of Callidus Consultancy presented on their Voids Management Toolkit (see presentation on website)

Review/ Forward Looking

The group discussed the day's meeting and considered issues for the future. Nigel made clear that he would like a regular presence from WG Housing team at future tech services meetings.