



**Regulation and Governance Strategic Delivery Group (SDG): Actions and decisions**

**23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019**

**In attendance**

Abbeyfield Wales Society Ltd.	Gary Hortop	Chief Executive
Aelwyd Housing Association	Gareth Cole	Assurance Provider
ateb Group	Ceri Barnett	In-house solicitor
Cadwyn Housing Association	Kath Palmer	Chief Executive
Cadwyn Housing Association	Leynie Pearn	PA to Chief Executive
Cardiff Community Housing Association	Brian Pickett	Director of Finance
Cardiff Community Housing Association	Rebecca Neill	Interim Head of Governance
Cardiff Community Housing Association	Samantha Williams	Governance and Executive Support Officer
Cartrefi Conwy	Sandra Lee	Company Secretary
Coastal Housing Group	Joanne Smith	Regulation and Governance Manager
Community Housing Cymru	Clarissa Corbisiero	Director of Policy
Family Housing Association	Farid Ali	Governance and Business Improvement Manager
Family Housing Association	Mohammed Rahman	Executive Support Assistant



First Choice HA	Donna Lloyd-Williams	Director of Corporate Services & Housing
Hafan Cymru	Liz Murray	Head of People Services
Linc-Cymru	Kevin Howell	Head of Housing
Melin Homes	Sarah Felvus	Governance Officer
Melin Homes	Daniel Lewis	Performance and Business Intelligence Manager
Merthyr Tydfil HA	Suzanne Jones	Policy, Performance and Communications Officer
Newport City Homes	Joanna Fairley	Head of Governance
Pobl Group	Catherine Weller	Director of Corporate Operations
Rhondda HA	Jennifer Ellis	Director of Operations
Taff HA	Blodwen Lewis	Governance & Assurance Manager
Tai Calon Community Housing	Jayne Lewis	Governance Officer
Tai Calon Community Housing	Marcia Sinfield	Deputy Chief Executive
Tai Tarian	Angela Priestley	Head of Corporate Services
Trivallis	Nathan Price	Policy Research Officer
United Welsh	Nia Roblin	Head of Governance and Compliance
United Welsh	Elli Meredith	Governance and Compliance Partner
Wales & West Housing	Claire McDougall	Governance Manager



## **1. Workshop session – group priorities and ways of working**

The SDG discussed key areas of interest in groups and their preferred ways of working. These notes are available at Annex A.

Clarissa Corbisiero provided an update following the review of SDGs and highlighted the role of the SDGs to:

- Test and develop policy ideas and turn them into policy asks
- Horizon scan to Identify future risks and opportunities
- Feed into and shape CHC conferences and training and
- Actively support a strong and resilient sector

**Actions** arising from the discussion include:

- CHC to compile views and use information to identify areas of overlap and common interest with other SDGs.
- CHC to reflect on views regarding effective communication and clarity over where information is stored and make changes that work consistently across all SDGs.
- CHC to circulate updated terms of reference and work plan.
- CHC to use wider information to inform its member offer and ensure that it meets the needs and interests of members across the SDGs.
- Representatives from the SDG that attend meetings on the SDGs behalf to share updates from that meeting with colleagues in a timely way and seek views on the issues to be discussed in advance.

## **2. Regulatory update**

Ian Walters and Huw Maguire from the Regulatory team within Welsh Government attended and provided an update. Key discussion points and actions included:

- The regulator will shortly tender for consultants to support the development of a governance assessment tool. One of the key requirements of the brief is the co-development of the tool with the sector. The SDG offered their assistance in inputting into the model at an appropriate point.
- Ian Walters gave a presentation outlining the refreshed approach to assurance and regulatory engagement which will be risk based and proportionate to that risk. Ian welcomed continued feedback from SDG members on the implementation of this approach.



- The group discussed the importance of clarity around assurance and identified an opportunity to share good practice. **Action:** sharing good practice around regulatory assurance to be on the agenda for the next SDG meeting. This could include the co-development of a series of templates or advice.
- **Action:** Regulator to produce a schematic of how the regulatory framework works.
- The SDG highlighted the importance of sharing learning from complex cases but also identified appetite to share information and learning from challenges in instances which haven't resulted in significant regulatory intervention. **Action:** SDG to consider lessons learnt from their own organisations around key themes at future meetings. CHC to consider how best this learning could be shared.

### 3. Schedule 1- workshop

The SDG discussed the operation of Schedule 1 and areas where change would be desirable. There is an opportunity to review and refine the scope of Schedule 1 currently although it is unlikely that this would result in changes to primary legislation due to legislative pressures in the Senedd. The feedback from the group is attached at Annex B.

#### **Actions:**

- CHC to compile priority areas for action based on the discussions at the SDG and share with other interested SDGs for wider comment and input.
- CHC to seek changes to Schedule 1 and surrounding guidance, determinations and circulars based on sector feedback.

### 4. Affordable Housing Review

James Burgess, Head of Housing Supply, Welsh Government attended the meeting to provide an update on the findings of the independent Affordable Housing Review.

### 5. Tenants at the Heart Regulatory Board for Wales (RBW) thematic review.

Clarissa Corbisiero updated the group on the progress of the third thematic review which has been commissioned by RBW on 'tenants at the heart of regulation'. The group discussed the progress of the review and agreed to revisit this issue once the review had been published. **Action:** Group to discuss the recommendations from the review once published.

#### **AOB**

Clarissa Corbisiero updated the group that there had been a discussion with the Chief Executives Strategic Delivery Group and the CHC Board about issues relating to transparency, trust and value for money. The decision had been taken to pause the work of the task and finish group whilst CHC reflects on the feedback from the Board and Delivery Group and identifies next steps.

Next meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019