

## **APSE Building and Housing Advisory Group Meeting**

**Friday 13 September 2013**

**Perth**

### **1. Welcome & Introduction**

Cllr Les Sharp Chair welcomed everyone to Perth and thanked both Tayside Contracts for hosting the meeting and the all for attending.

### **2. Attendance & Apologies**

See attached.

### **3. Minutes of meeting 24 April 2013**

The group approved the minutes as a correct record from the day.

### **4. Matters arising from pervious minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **5. Dampness: problems experienced across East Dunbartonshire Council**

Colin McInnes provided the group with a detailed presentation on dampness related issues within East Dumbarton. Colin provided some background including the various types of dampness as well as highlighting what some of the main causes may be.

He then went on to talk about the analysis from a dampness housing survey which was carried out by the service. Over 500 surveys have been carried out over the past 4 years and the analysis helped to confirm what the most common cause was and in which type of houses. Colin went on to say that the big issues are the use of the building and not fabric of the building & that it was important for local authorities to educate residents in this area. Ensuring tenants are aware of what they can do to improve this issue as well as work Councils themselves can do.

Colin concluded by highlighting that fuel poverty will continue to impact on the increasing level of condensation/ dampness being experienced unless the issue is addressed.

A discussion then followed with other local authorities highlighting their issues in this area and how they were trying to address it.

### **6. Performance Networks: Update**

Mark Bramah, Assistant Chief Executive, APSE provided the group with a detailed update on the work of PN within Building in Scotland. It was agreed that as part of the paperwork for the next meeting the first batch of reports would be circulated to all to see if any local authorities had any comments.

Mark also highlighted that Performance Networks were concentrating on introducing priority flags on the Scotland template to make it easier for those submitting to see these areas more easily.

Mark also informed the group of the different ways the Performance Networks team could help those participating including providing onsite support and group based support.

The group agreed that any changes to the template should reflect what's happening in Scotland.

## **7. The importance of behavioural change in effective energy cost reduction**

Terry Hawksby, Housing Business Director, Ewgeco provide the group with a detailed presentation on effective energy cost reduction. Terry spoke about the 1<sup>st</sup> multi channel real time device which monitors electricity, gas, water etc. He explained how the device works within domestic & non-domestic properties & highlighted how sustainable homes are a big factor in people using this type of technology.

Terry then went on to provide some examples of organisations using the technology and what benefits it can bring.

Following the presentation the group asked Terry a number of questions including how it worked during a power cut and the cost of the technology.

## **8. Scottish Social Housing Charter: Indicators**

A detailed discussion led by Colin McInnes took place within the meeting on the indicators. It was agreed that APSE would try to arrange for a representative from the Housing Regulator to come along to the next group meeting to provide further discussions.

## **9. Monitoring Subcontractors Quality**

It was agreed that in the absence of Margo Blair this would be discussed at the next meeting of the group.

## **10. APSE Update**

Louise McMillan, Principal Advisor for APSE Scotland provided a full update to the group on the current work of APSE both Nationally & Locally. This included information on the traded services of the organisation, information on the new Protective services pilot with PN which was now under way, the various briefings from the Association and a review of the recent and upcoming events. This included the a brief review of the recent Social Media seminar which took place in Hampden and Annual seminar, exhibition & service awards which was held in Liverpool the week before.

Louise congratulated the Scottish region on once again having a number of winning service awards including Inverclyde, Aberdeen City, City of Edinburgh & Renfrewshire.

## **11. Items for discussion at future Advisory Group meetings**

The group highlighted a number of potential areas for interest for future meetings.

**12. AOCB**

There was no other competent business raised during the meeting.

**13. Date/Time and venue for next meeting**

The date and time for the next meeting was confirmed as Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November in Alloa.

### Attendance 13 September 2013

<b>Name</b>	<b>Council</b>
Louise McMillan	APSE
Mark Bramah	APSE
Cllr Les Sharp	Clackmannanshire Council
Martin Wallace	Dundee City Council
Bruce Patrick	Dundee City Council
Tony Dolan	Dundee City Council
William Frame	East Dunbartonshire Council
Colin McInnes	East Dunbartonshire Council
Terry Hawksby	Ewgeco
Robert Fotheringham	Falkirk Council
Des Murray	North Lanarkshire Council
Elaine Scott	Renfrewshire Council
Stewart Muir	Renfrewshire Council
Gary Mooney	Scotland Excel
Karen Thomson	Scotland Excel
Mark Smith	South Ayrshire Council
Angela Gribbin	South Ayrshire Council
Heather Philips	South Lanarkshire Council
Brian Lafferty	South Lanarkshire Council

### Apologies

Jim Thomson	Midlothian Council
Ahsan Khan	Clackmannanshire Council
Katherine McLaughlin	West Lothian Council
Robert Boal	West Lothian Council
Ronnie Dempster	Dumfries & Galloway Council