

APSE Building and Housing Advisory Group Meeting

Friday 29 April 2016

Chatelherault Country Park, Hamilton

1. Welcome & Introduction

Cllr Les Sharp thanked all for attending the meeting in Chatelherault and thanked South Lanarkshire Council for hosting the meeting.

2. Attendance & Apologies

See attached.

3. Minutes of meeting 6 November 2015

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

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. SMART meter training: potential opportunities for local authorities

Thane Lawrie provided the group with an update on their SMART meter training. At the time of the presentation the training partnership hadn't been fully signed off but it was hoped that this would be confirmed by May/ June.

Thane provided the group with information on SCARF and the different advice/ help which the organisation provides including the Home Energy Scotland advice line. Thane then went on to provide some background to the various training modules which are available with a course to "up skill" members of staff to SMART.

It was noted by the group that a potential challenge could be with the utility companies should they be hesitant about releasing to allow local authorities who have completed the training the opportunity to carry out the work.

6. Glasgow Caledonian University Research: Public sector construction projects

Bolutife Oyemomi provided the group with information on the upcoming research project which he was completing at Glasgow Caledonian University. This research is based around human resources incentives attached to the delivery of public sector projects. All of the research will look to contribute to knowledge and practice in a number of areas including stakeholder representation and relationships, community benefit schemes and procurement/ supply chain management.

The group then asked a number of questions following the presentation including information on how long the research interviews would take and whether the results would be passed to local authorities for information.

7. New funding streams for house building: Local authority benefits

The group held a general discussion around potential funding streams from organisations including Scottish Government.

8. Systems and mobile working equipment for building repairs

Following a recent network query which was issued, the APSE office completed a short survey with members of the group on mobile working IT systems and software. From the responses received and discussions during the meeting it was highlighting that there was a number of systems and software packages being used across local authorities. Packages differed with regards to the modules being used and the set up.

It was noted that being Public Service Network (PSN) Compliance was a big issue for local authorities. Other points noted during the discussion included potentially losing schedule of rates (SOR) information now mobile and not paper systems, difficulties in pulling all of the information together from different systems for tenants to see and the issue of technology having to be made more basic in terms of what it can do due to potential security issues.

9. APSE update

Louise delivered an update on the work of the Association, including our latest research on the “Final Piece of the Jigsaw” a further study on elected members and the recently released “APSE Scotland’s toolkit for Solar PV” which was produced by APSE Energy and available to all APSE Scotland member authorities (please contact Louise Melville on Lmelville@apse.org.uk should you wish a copy). Louise also updated the group on the various forms of advocacy undertaken recently including APSE’s work within the SWITCH forum, recent responses to Scottish Government consultations and participating in party political conferences. Louise completed the presentation by updating the group on APSEs services including APSE Solutions, APSE Training, Performance Networks and the upcoming seminars.

10. AOCB

There was no other competent business raised at the meeting.

11. Date/Time and venue for next meeting

The date for the next meeting is to be scheduled following the Scottish AGM in June.

12. Lunch

13. Officers Group & Process Benchmarking

It was agreed that due to other commitments this agenda item would be taken as part of the main meeting and would be shorter than normal as a separate meeting would be tabled for the group in June.

The cost/ performance matrix will be issued to the working group for completion with 2015/16 information and the meeting in June will allow for comparisons to be gathered from the 2014/15 information already collated.

Colin McInnes asked those in attendance to email himself or Louise Melville with any potential topics for process benchmarking. It was highlighted that 5 days had currently

be reserved for this advisory group however this would be based on the topics brought forward from the group.

It was highlighted that a potential area for work could be in terms of links with utilities e.g. Scottish Water. It was agreed with the group that any potential links which can be made to improve communications and engagements would be useful.

Attendees List

Louise Melville	APSE
Colin McInnes	APSE Solutions
Cllr Les Sharp	Clackmannanshire Council
Bruce Patrick	Dundee City Council
Richard Stewart	East Ayrshire Council
Robert Fotheringham	Falkirk Council
Ross Grieve	Fife Council
Steve Anderson	Fife Council
Allan Barclay	Fife Council
Bolutife Oyemomi	Glasgow Caledonian University
Caroline Adams	North Ayrshire Council
Karen Sillars	Renfrewshire Council
Thane Lawrie	SCARF
Bobby Watson	South Lanarkshire Council
Marion Main	South Lanarkshire Council
Duncan MacPherson	West Lothian Council
Robert Boal	West Lothian Council

Apologies

Jeanette Percy	Clackmannanshire Council
Heather McInnes	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Steven Trotter	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Wallace Galloway	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Susanne Greig	East Lothian Council
Kenny Gillespie	Falkirk Council
Moira Fitzsimmons	Falkirk Council

Jim Thomson	Midlothian Council
Dougie McMillan	South Lanarkshire Council