

APSE Scotland Building & Housing advisory group meeting

Chatelherault Country Park, Hamilton

3 May 2019

1. Introduction & Welcome

Cllr George Paul, Chair of the group welcomed all to the meeting. As part of his introduction, George updated the group on the situation in Russia and Sri Lanka on non-hazardous asbestos and encouraged attendees to contact him for information on this

2. Attendance & Apologies

See attached.

3. Minutes from previous meeting 9 November 2018

The minutes of the meeting on the 9 November 2018 were agreed as a true and accurate account.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5. Gas and electricity theft: the importance of revenue protection

As much of the detail of the presentation is very sensitive, the notes on the contents of the presentation are deliberately vague. Alan Neill and Stuart Miller from Scottish Power provided an overview of the work of their department in detecting and preventing energy theft. Energy theft is dangerous and can lead to personal injury, damage to property and risk to lives. The team carried out 27,000 visits in 2018 with around 30% irregularity/interference at accessed properties. The presentation also featured a show and tell of tampered meters, common frauds and other things to look out for.

6. West Lothian's assisted decorating scheme

Robert Smith and Richard Green from West Lothian Council attended the meeting to provide a background on the Council's Assisted Decoration Scheme. The scheme was introduced in 2015/16 to contribute to improved health and wellbeing of the tenants and to improve tenancy sustainment. The qualifying criteria for the project is to be either for older people of pensionable age or households of singular or multiple people of reduced physical capacity. 1254 households out of 1327 applicants have benefitted from the scheme to date. The scheme has proven to be extremely popular with tenants and the customer feedback from questionnaires is showing 99.5% satisfaction.

The scheme includes: preparation of the room (i.e. stripping, filling, lining paper), painting of walls, ceilings and woodwork and/or wallpapering, tenants can choose from a wallpaper pattern book supplied by WLC at no cost or choose to provide their own at their expense, choice of paint colours, assistance can be given to clearing out the room prior to work commencing.

The scheme provides workloads throughout the year for their in-house resource, there is high interest from operatives to be involved in the programme, and it has been well received from employees.

Training opportunities include developing skills of their own in-house resource, a schools programme (multi-trade programmes, girls into construction), work experience, International Student placements and Modern & Adult apprenticeships.

7. Advisory group areas and future focus / work plan 2019/2020

A number of future advisory group areas of future focus were suggested including: New alarm regulations, home insulation, tower safety, certification for double fire doors, certifications, new build and off-site construction, internal property renovations, open market acquisition schemes, design and build and others. These were noted by the APSE office for consideration in the preparation of future agendas.

8. APSE Update

Garry Lee provided an update on the current work of the Association, including the latest briefings, publications, recent advocacy work, network queries, upcoming APSE Energy and APSE Training events in Scotland, the work of APSE Solutions and upcoming Scottish and National seminars.

9. AOCB

There was no other competent business.

10. Date for next meeting

To be decided following the APSE Scotland AGM on 7 June 2019.

11. Lunch

12. Process Benchmarking: Review of PN/ARC indicators

After lunch APSE Associate Colin McInnes provided an update on the multiskilling survey (sent out in May for return in June, with the report provided at the following meeting), and it was suggested that a small working group could be formed to look over the Performance Networks indicators.

Building & Housing Services Group

03-May-19

Attendee List

Name	Council
Garry Lee	APSE
Colin McInnes	APSE Associate
Ross Grieve	Fife Council
Richard Stewart	East Ayrshire Council
Lee Anderson	East Ayrshire Council
Allan Barclay	Fife Council
James Thomson	Midlothian Council
Michelle Hendry	North Lanarkshire Council
Oliver Baylis	Renfrewshire Council
Alan Neill	Scottish Power
John Hart	South Ayrshire Council
William Coupland	South Ayrshire Council
Dougie McMillan	South Lanarkshire Council
Robert Smith	West Lothian Council
Richard Green	West Lothian Council
Duncan Macpherson	West Lothian Council
Cllr George Paul	West Lothian Council
Robert Stewart	West Lothian Council