



# Minutes

## Homes 4 Us meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011

### Present:

|                |    |                 |    |
|----------------|----|-----------------|----|
| Linda Kerry    | LK | Alan Darby      | AD |
| Sheila Beale   | SB | Clive Thorpe    | CT |
| Lynn Mitchell  | LM | Chris England   | CE |
| David Pearce   | DP | Jenny Grant     | JG |
| Lovleen Labana | LL | Linford Stevens | LS |
| Helen Thomson  | HT | Jenny Waugh     | JW |
| Pam Brewer     | PB | Fred Smith      | FS |
| Juliette Trout | JT | Elaine Graham   | EG |
| Beverley Hall  | BH | Val Schneider   | VS |

|                       |    |              |    |
|-----------------------|----|--------------|----|
| Nottingham City Homes |    |              |    |
| Cheryll Rawling       | CR | Naomi Wright | NW |
| Ben Chilvers          | BC |              |    |

### Apologies:

|               |    |               |    |
|---------------|----|---------------|----|
| Alison Thorpe | AT | Ruth Haywood  | RH |
| Anna Guest    | AG | Sue Stevenson | SS |
| George Guest  | GG |               |    |

The meeting was opened at 12.30 by the Chair

| <b>Item</b> | <b>Commentary</b> |  | <b>Action</b> |
|-------------|-------------------|--|---------------|
| <b>1.0</b>  | <b>LK</b>         | <b>Welcome, Introductions and apologies</b>  |               |
| <b>2.0</b>  | <b>LK</b>         | <b>Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting</b>   |               |
| <b>2.1</b>  |                   | The point was made that unfortunately due to health and safety regulations the doors have to be thick and heavy to suppress possible fumes.  |               |
| <b>2.2</b>  | <b>LK</b>         | has a meeting scheduled with Helen Jones, Adult Services and Health, NCC on 28 <sup>th</sup> July for further discussions. LK to feedback the results at the next meeting.   |               |
| <b>2.3</b>  | <b>All</b>        | Agreed that a dedicated involvement officer should attend all future Homes 4 Us meetings.  | <b>CR</b>     |
| <b>3.0</b>  | <b>LK</b>         | <b>Feedback from joint NCH / NCC meeting</b>   |               |
| <b>3.1</b>  | <b>LK</b>         | LK gave an update to the panel regarding a meeting with Vincent Brice and Ann Derby of NCC. Issues concerning disabled tenants were raised and discussed. These included the fire-doors being too heavy and awkward for disabled residents |               |
| <b>4.0</b>  | <b>ALL</b>        | <b>Understanding the numbers</b>   |               |
| <b>4.1</b>  | <b>ALL</b>        | A discussion around profiling carers was held. It would be an interesting and useful exercise to determine the age range of carers and the number and age of registered disabled tenants.  |               |
| <b>4.2</b>  | <b>CR</b>         | NCH do have a flagging system to alert work men etc. to the fact that it is a disabled tenant living in the property although this will only be flagged up if they declare themselves a vulnerable tenant.                                 |               |
| <b>4.3</b>  | <b>CT</b>         | The new customer service centre at NCH will open up the opportunity to put this information on the system so all are aware of the specific disabilities and needs of the tenant.   |               |

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|------------|------------|--|-----------|
|            |            | <p>Forward plan for the next meeting: CR to compile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakdown of % of disabled residents</li> <li>• Number of tenants with disabilities and carers under 16 years of age</li> <li>• Number of tenants with disabilities and carers over 16 years of age</li> </ul> <p>Those residents and carers who are under the age of 16 are often unknown. The relevant patch manager should be aware of this.</p> |           |
| <b>4.4</b> | <b>ALL</b> | 'Nottingham on call' was discussed. It was agreed within the group that nothing seems to have improved. It takes too long for the team to react to calls and the crisis team at the hospital need to be involved.  |           |
| <b>4.5</b> | <b>ALL</b> | Gill Moy, Director of Housing is to be invited to the next Homes 4 Us meeting.   | <b>CR</b> |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>BC</b>  | <b>Proposed Welfare Reforms</b><br>Ben Chilvers  |           |
| <b>5.1</b> | <b>BC</b>  | explained that changes to the welfare system are to happen over the next couple of years. At the moment some information is unclear as more information is available it will be fed to the group.  |           |
| <b>5.2</b> | <b>BC</b>  | confirmed that for each non-dependant [of working age] that is living in the property an amount will be deducted each week, unless they are in full-time education. At present it stands at £9.40/ week  |           |
| <b>5.3</b> | <b>BC</b>  | <p>stated the amount of housing benefit (HB) that is paid will be related to the property that is needed rather than what is wanted. HB will not be based on what the tenant is currently living in but rather a size that is appropriate and fit for purpose.</p> <p>A 'local Housing allowance' is proposed where the government will set a maximum amount it will pay in HB per property. Exact details are unknown at present.</p>               |           |
| <b>5.4</b> | <b>CT</b>  | Requested the group are provided with the up-to-date information in a hard copy format so the forum can keep abreast of the changes.   | <b>BC</b> |

|            |            |   |           |
|------------|------------|---|-----------|
| <b>5.5</b> | <b>BC</b>  | A carers accommodation allowance has been taken into account as far as we know  |           |
| <b>5.6</b> | <b>BC</b>  | Universal Credit is proposed to be introduced in 2013 and phased over 4 years. The benefit payments are planned to be capped, where a single person will be entitled to £350/week and couples/ lone parents no more than £500/week. This is an all-inclusive capping and will include HB. |           |
| <b>5.7</b> | <b>All</b> | It was agreed that it would be advantageous for BC to return to the forum to update on a regular basis.   | <b>BC</b> |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>JG</b>  | <b>Newsletter / Information sheet</b>   |           |
| <b>6.1</b> |            | Deferred to next meeting  |           |
| <b>7.0</b> | <b>ALL</b> | <b>Round ups and feedback from other forums</b>   |           |
|            |            | Deferred to next meeting  |           |
| <b>8.0</b> |            | <b>Any other Business</b>   |           |
| <b>8.1</b> | <b>CT</b>  | The dustbin assist scheme needs to be reappointed as many residents are struggling to get their bins back to the property. CT to raise at the next meeting he attends   | <b>CT</b> |
| <b>8.2</b> | <b>CR</b>  | To send nomination forms for the new chair out to panel members along with a pre-paid envelope. All nominations to be received by 10 <sup>th</sup> June.  | <b>CR</b> |
| <b>9.0</b> |            | <b>Date, time and Venue of next meeting</b><br><br><b>June 27<sup>th</sup> 2011, 12.00pm, Boardroom Hounds Gate. This will be the AGM.</b>  |           |

Homes 4 us  
Action Sheet



|  |  |  |              |                           |
|--|--|--|--------------|---------------------------|
|  |  |  | Meeting Date | 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2011 |
|--|--|--|--------------|---------------------------|

| Agenda Item | Page | Action  | Responsible | By when?                    |
|-------------|------|---|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 2.3         | 2    | All agreed that a dedicated officer should attend all future Homes 4 Us meetings.   | CR          | Ongoing                     |
| 4.5         | 2    | Gill Moy, Director of Housing is to be invited to the next Homes 4 Us meeting.  | CR          | 27.06.2011                  |
| 5.4         | 3    | CT Requested the group are provided with the up-to-date information in a hard copy format so the forum can keep abreast of the changes.                     | BC          | 27.06.2011                  |
| 5.7         | 3    | It was agreed that it would be advantageous for BC to return to the forum to update on a regular basis.   | BC          | Ongoing                     |
| 8.1         | 4    | CT to raise Dustbin Assistance Scheme at next Area Committee Meeting  | CT          | Next Area Committee Meeting |
| 8.2         | 4    | CR to send nomination forms for the new chair out to panel members along with a pre-paid envelope. All nominations to be received by 10 <sup>th</sup> June. | CR          | 08.06.2011                  |