



SHARE Social Housing Forum

14th July 2009

Severn Wye Energy Agency, Highnam, Gloucester

Attendance

Cecilia Liszka – Practical Help / Energy Saving Trust
Ruth Kircup – Stroud District Council
Andrew Ward – Scottish Power
Lynne Barber – Cirencester Housing
Sally Daley – Stroud District Council
Kaye Welfare – SWEA
Tony Hayes – Wyedean Housing
David Steels – Tewkesbury Borough Council
James Ford – Two Rivers Housing
Carl Yearwood – Cheltenham Borough Homes
Julian Denslow – Cheltenham Borough Homes
Katie Hardidge – Sustain
Henry Patterson – Domestic and General Insulation Ltd
Jo Nicholson – SWEA
Stuart Davies - SWEA

1. Welcome and introductions

Jo Nicholson welcomed everyone to the Forum.

2. Presentations

- Presentations were heard from Practical Help, Scottish Power, Sustain and SWEA focussing on hard to treat homes, steps and measures to improve them, funding available to assist with this and the support available to RSL's via consultancy etc.
- Presentations are attached to this email. Thank you to our speakers for engaging and interesting presentations.

3. Round table update

- Domestic and General insulation are introducing internal wall insulation into their portfolio. They can already install external wall insulation for solid walled properties.
- Two Rivers Housing are in the process of tackling around 100 cornish properties with external wall insulation and aim to exceed decent homes standards with this. Also they are changing all their utilities suppliers to Monarch who offer a better deal for tenants.

- David Steels talked about the National Indicator 187 targets, and the importance of housing providers helping with the data collection for this. The group leading this would like a representative from the SHARE forum to be involved in their meetings and to act as a communication channel between the two groups. The group agreed to put NI187 on the agenda for the next forum in particular to discuss how the data collection would work.
- The Energy Saving Trust have launched a traces tool which has been developed specifically with NI186 in mind. This tool allows all partners (LA's, Installers, RSLs etc.) to enter information on whats being done. This is currently in a spreadsheet format but will be translated into a web based tool in the future.
- Wyedean had all their EPC's done under the HC grant, but are now faced with the problem of getting them redone if the properties are improved and the substantial costs involved with this.
- There is currently a scrutiny enquiry in Stroud around sustainable energy financing and there is a possibility more finance will be made available for sustainable energy measures.
- Gloucestershire as a county were scrutinised on excess winter death numbers, and were praised for the good work being done particularly through the affordable warmth partnership
- The Energy Saving Trust have also developed a guide on designing area based schemes, similar to warm zones / CESP eligible schemes.
- Jo Nicholson is leaving SWEA for a new post in Scotland working on a community based energy project on July 30th. Gilda Costley will be taking over the secretariat of the SHARE forum and the management of the Social Housing Contracts.

4. Content for next forum

- Two Rivers Housing – Lots is being done at TRH to improve their properties, so the forum would like to invite James Ford to give an overview of some of the good work going on there
- Data Collection for NI186/187 – the group plan to have a brainstorm around what need to be collected and how we go about it
- Stroud social housing refurbishment – Ruth Kircup will be invited to give us an update on the work being done in Stroud to improve their social housing properties.
- Joined up working in Gloucestershire – the topic of a joint procurement body for Gloucestershire was raised, and Westco were mentioned as an example of good practice. SWEA will try to get a representative from Westco along to the next forum to discuss how we go about setting this up.

5. Date of next meeting

The next SHARE forum will be in October 2009, date and venue to be confirmed.