

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



TENANT INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNANCE: MODELS AND PRACTICES



Supporting
Communities™
Empowering Society

Housing
Executive

Three Half Day workshops on Tenant Involvement in Governance – where next for Northern Ireland?

October 19th Twickenham House, Ballymena (1.00-4.00), October 20th Belfast Castle, (1.00-4.00), October 21st Marlborough House Craigavon (10.00-1.00)

These three workshops are being organised to enable tenants of the Housing Executive and housing associations in Northern Ireland to discuss the relevance of recent research on models of tenant involvement in governance by the University of Birmingham. Stakeholders from housing associations, local councils, and relevant government departments are also warmly invited to the Belfast Castle event on October 20th which follows the Housing Executive Intelligence Exchange event on the same day.

There will be opportunities for comments on a state of the art review of current practice in Northern Ireland with three case studies and an overview of international models.

Then in an exciting interactive session tenants will reality check four of these models – **the Austrian model, the Dutch Model the Welsh model and the English model**

All participants will have the opportunity to assess the relevance and potential benefits of these models for Northern Ireland tenants.

Come along and have your say on where next for your involvement in your housing. Listen to expert speakers from Amsterdam Tenants Association, Confederation of Cooperative Housing, University of Linz and Community Gateway Association, Preston. Hear assessments of relevance to Northern Ireland from the Supporting Communities team, ask questions and find out where to get more information.

To Book Your Place: Please contact Laura O’Dowd, Support Services Manager at Supporting Communities; laura@supportingcommunities.org 028 2564 5676

PROGRAMME

1.00/10am Arrivals and networking

1.10/10.10 **Welcome and Background to the Project** – Colm McDaid and David Mullins

1.20/10.20 **Findings from State of Art Review and Case Studies in Northern Ireland** – Peter Shanks, University of Birmingham:

- Strengths of tenant involvement in governance in NI
- Views on main barriers and enablers for the future
- Specific steps for HAs and NIHE and others

1.40/10.40 **Group Discussion of possible next steps**

1.55/10.55 **International Models Overview and introduction to reality checking exercise**
Professor David Mullins, University of Birmingham

- What can we learn from different contexts?
- How can strong involvement be established from the start?
- What kinds of partnerships can be established with landlords?
- How can tenants be involved in governance of housing across a council area?

2.10/11.10 **Q &A**

2.20/11.20 Tea and Coffee

2.30/11.30 Reality Checking Specific Models – participative workshops

We have invited four international speakers to each present one of the models¹ highlighted in the international review for critical discussion of relevance to Northern Ireland.

- **Austrian Model** – building participation in to the development process – Richard Lang, University of Linz (**Workshop 1 Weds 19 October**)
- **Dutch Model** – Local Area Agreements 2015 Housing Act –Daniel Bosch, Board member Amsterdam Tenants Association (**Workshop 2 Thursday 20 October**)
- **Welsh Model** – new start up coops in Wales – Nic Bliss, Confederation of Cooperative Housing (**Workshop 3 Friday 21 October**)
- **English Model** – Community Gateway - tenant representation on the board, community links & innovative ways of involving & engaging tenants – Paul Kelly with Veronica McLintock, David Yates, and Angela Ayres, Tenant Board Members Community Gateway Association (**Workshop 4 Friday 21 October**)

There will be two presentations of 15 minutes before we split into two groups to consider relevance of each to Northern Ireland.

3.00/12.00 Small Group Discussions introduced by Supporting Communities

The response on relevance to Northern Ireland will be led by a member of the Supporting Communities team followed by your questions and assessment.

3.45/12.45 **Round up Discussion** – Supporting Communities

4.00/1.00 **Close**

¹ We hope to run workshops 1 and 2 on both Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th subject to travel arrangements. Workshops 3 and 4 will run in parallel in Friday 21st.