

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESIDENT PARTICIPATION FRAMEWORK - HIGHLIGHTS

Tenant and Resident Associations (TRAs)

- Badly impacted by Covid-19
- Many Tenant and Resident Association (TRA) Annual General Meetings (AGMs) inquorate
- TRA support offer being rolled out to all TRAs on database via TRA development planning
- Gaps analysis completed

Local Housing Forums (LHFs)

- Established in all 5 areas
- Hitherto, exclusively online (but this is changing)
- Poorly attended – unpopular format (too many presentations)
- Member champions and Area Manager ‘ownership’ not established
- Proposals in place to improve purpose and function of LHFs
- Paused for most of 2022-23

Strategic Forums

- Tenant Forum (TF) and Homeowner Forum (HF) established
- Joint Tenant and Homeowner Forum not established
- Homeowner Forum well-attended, Tenant Forum not well attended
- Paused for most of 2022-23

Housing Scrutiny Commission

- HF and TF nominees to Housing Scrutiny Commission
- Some confusion as to distinction between this body and Environment and Scrutiny Commission

Residents Online Panel

- Established in 2020
- Over 500 members
- Used in relation to numerous policy issues – homeowner insurance, damp and mould policy, estate cleaning, Section 20 notices, district heating etc.

Annual Conference

- Suspended during Covid-19 pandemic
- Planned for 2023-24

Funding

- Resident Participation Fund introduced in 2020
- Replaced Tenant Fund and Homeowner Fund
- Getting Involved Grants (GIG) introduced in 2020 (project-based)
- Significant underspend in grant funding due to Covid-19
- Significant surpluses in TRA accounts overall

Independent advice contracts

- For homeowners, a procurement exercise is currently underway, involving a Single Supplier Negotiation (SSN) with Citizens' Advice Southwark (CAS).
- For the tenant advice contract, a procurement route has yet to be determined.
- Funding for CAS and SGTO continues on a grant basis.

Review of Framework

- Outstanding
- Possibly subsumed by introduction of Tenant Empowerment and Involvement Standards, and the introduction of regulation for councils