

ARCH Tenant Group 2017 – 2019

Jenny Hill - Runnymede

I first became involved in tenant participation during Runnymede's Stock Option Process. I have been involved in Tenants Group since the beginning in 2011 and have gained a lot of knowledge about tenant matters during that time.

I have participated in the arrangements for the tenants' conferences as well helping to produce leaflets to help tenants. As vice chairman and now chairman I attend the Executive Board meetings which is the link between the tenants group and the Executive. It is important that tenants' have a voice and I feel that this can be achieved by being involved.



Martyn Lund - Kettering

I have been a member for approx. five years and have actively contributed to all debates and sharing of information from my landlord – and to my landlord. I have experience facilitating workshops, presenting at conferences, report writing and I'm also currently chair of my landlords Overview and Scrutiny Panel. I would love to continue the work and be actively involved.



Eric Shipton - Birmingham

Eric Shipton is a very proactive tenant who has been part of Birmingham tenant led movement for over ten years. He is currently the Chair of the Sutton Coldfield Housing Liaison Board and I'm also a member of the City Housing Liaison Board. Eric is a member of the Performance Monitoring Group which fulfil the role of co regulator for the services delivered by Birmingham Council reform group and was instrumental in the organisation of a successful welfare reform conference in March 2017.

Gary Jones – Brighton and Hove

I am an experienced tenant representative and am involved locally as Vice Chair of my association and city wide on the Home Service Improvement Group and Resident Inspectors programme. I have also sat on the core group for a year and a half in a small group of tenants who oversee the Mears contract. I am also a service user consultant for MIND. I enjoy making a positive difference and am used to giving feedback to residents and managers.



Brian Tully - Crawley

I have been an involved Council Tenant for over 10 years. I first became involved on the Homeless Panel. I then became involved with Crawley Homes Forum for several years and at the same time Estate Improvements Panel. I was also part of the repairs panel that scrutinised quality of repairs under the decent homes standard. Have been involved with service and performance scrutinising Crawley Homes Service and Performance 60 Tenants. I am currently vice chair of Tenants and Leaseholders Action Panel and have been involved with above panel for approximately four years.

Yaw Boateng - Croydon

I have been involved with Tenant Participation for about four years serving on Croydon council's Housing Scrutiny Panel, Complaints Panel and for about a year on the Tenants and Leaseholders Panel. Through being on these panels, I have gained useful insight into how the council interacts/communicates with its residents, partaking in research/fact-finding, and offering suggestions for improvement.

Some of the most rewarding things has been learning from each other, sharing good practice and contributing to the welfare of the community at large. I hope joining ARCH Tenants Group will enable me to broaden my knowledge and most importantly promote better tenant/landlord relationships.



Mavis Vines – East Riding

I have been involved as a Tenant Rep since 2005. I was Secretary of Tenants Forum for five years and Treasurer for seven; and am currently Chair of Joint Tenants Panel Efficiency North; and was Chair of Tenant Complaints Panel, and Member of Scrutiny, Inspectors, and other ad hoc panels.

I Have won four grants from Trafford Hall to organise various activities involving informing wider tenants of new legislations. I have achieved 13 College Credits in /housing from Open University. In my working career, I was a Procurement Officer for British Forces in Germany for 29 years, dealing mainly with building and barracks maintenance.



Stella Parkin - Rotherham

I am already involved with my local community group and attend some area housing panel meetings.

I am the Chair of the Housing Involvement Panel and have a keen interest in social housing.

I feel that I can contribute and can benefit from the ARCH Tenants Group meetings. I feel that I have a lot to give to the ARCH Tenants Group.

Wyn Marshall - Epping Forest

I have been a member of Epping Forest District Council Tenants and Leaseholders Federation for over ten years and the Chair person for several years now. I have also been a member of ARCH for about six years now. I believe my time spent and the experience I have gained through my work on the Federation has given me a clear understanding of the issues and concerns that tenants may experience.

For example, raising objections with Essex County Council over the cut in funding to the Careline and Scheme Management service that would have an impact on vulnerable tenants across Essex.



Cindy Watts - Exeter

I have had considerable experience within the Housing Sector. I was the Manager of the Homeless Night Shelter in Gloucester, a Manager at Gloucester Youth Housing Association and Rooftop Housing Association in Evesham.

I currently volunteer with a charity for women who have been trafficked, running a rehabilitation safe house for victims of modern slavery. I am a member of Exeter City Council's Performance Scrutiny Partnership, working closely with the benefits, homeless and housing departments. I have held personal tenancies with Cheltenham Borough Council and Exeter City Council and have had a share and buy property with Gloucester Housing Association.



Chris Gould - Norwich

Dear all, I would like to be nominated for membership of ARCH Tenants Board and accordingly set out these words as an address. I have lived a good deal of my adult life in my current address and value my flat as my home.

It has been a steady factor in bad times and an operational base in better times as a self-employed person. A secure tenancy has allowed me to make freer choices than if I were pinned down with a mortgage.

I believe council housing should be considered a home not simply rented accommodation. It should also be considered a valid option in preference to taking on a mortgage, especially for people at the bottom of the housing market.

Things have changed a lot since I was a boy when council housing was considered a decent option for working people. I warmly support the campaign to destigmatise council housing.

Times change and I am interested in how council housing can move with the times to serve the needs of the changing demographic – more single people, more old people, and more single parent families. I also believe we should see more affordable housing in the less built up areas that we have here in Norfolk where there are a great many hard-up people in rural areas. Anyway, there I will stop. I look forward to serving on ARCH if invited.

William (Ted) Jones - Stevenage

I am a team player committed to partnership working to ensure tenants receive the best housing services available. My experience includes:

- Successfully chairing the councils ALMO for four years
- Leading a successful campaign for £55m government Decent Homes funding to improve Stevenage tenants living conditions
- Negotiating leasing of vans to save money for investment back into housing services
- Joining the council's Customer Security Panel
- Chairing my local resident's groups and successfully canvassing to build a case for moving a community centre to a nearby park and making sure residents could put forward ideas for this development



David Brown – South Derbyshire

Since getting involved with the ARCH Tenants' Group in July 2011, I have represented the East Midlands area and participated in 5 conferences. Last year I was chairman of a conference breakout group and look forward to doing this again. I have taken an active role in the production of various guides and tenant manifestos have increased my awareness of the issues affecting tenants locally and nationally.

Within SDDC I positively represent tenants through new build and contractors' meetings and soon during the modernisation of the DLO. Greater knowledge and training gained via ARCH enables me to better help tenants.

Michael Daniels - Sheffield

I attend many partnership groups and with the experience I have gained from these groups I believe I could represent Sheffield council/tenants at the group by getting the ideas from the tenants to ARCH and vice versa feeding back information to tenant groups. I was seconded onto ARCH in 2016 and have attended the conference and meetings in London where I believe I have been an active member and hope my application will be accepted so I can carry on with this group.

Joy Chance – Welwyn Hatfield

As a Tenant Panel member, the skills and experiences I have brought of the group include management, customer service and good communication skills. I was voted onto the Panel at a time of major changes within local housing. The changes have highlighted the importance of maintaining quality services on behalf of all tenants. In 2015, I marched with 3,500 'Homes for Britain' campaigners and was proud to be part of putting housing firmly on the government's radar. I also became Chairperson for the Environmental Tenants Panel Sub Group where environmental issues affecting the tenants and leaseholders are discussed and solutions found. I have taken part in scrutiny initiatives looking at policies and procedures of key services provided to our tenants. I also work as a volunteer for various

charities. Working with local council and Housing staff, tenants and neighbours has been rewarding.

Dennis Smith – Tendring

Dennis has been a co-opted member of ARCH Tenants Group since February 2015, attending meetings as well as the ARCH conference in September. Through this role, Dennis represented the views of tenants locally and contributed to ARCH's response to consultations and production of information guides for tenants. Dennis was also elected to the position of Chair of Tendring Tenants Panel in April 2016 and re-elected to this position last month and so can continue to provide regular feedback to the Panel on housing developments and the work of ARCH.



Marlene Price, BEM - Wandsworth

After the formation of ARCH, I started the Tenants Group and was its first Chair. I have been representing the residents of Wandsworth for over 30 years at both our Area and Borough-wide Panels and am the Vice Chair (Chaired by an Elected Member) of our Borough Residents' Forum and attend our Housing and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

I have chaired many of our strategic groups such as our Stock Options Appraisal, the rewriting of our Tenants and Lease Conditions, our consultation process and the reviewing, interviewing tenderers and recommendation of the awarding of Contracts for Housing services.



John Bradshaw - Woking

I am very interested in becoming the ARCH representative for Woking. I have been a member of the Residents Operations Board for New Vision Homes, the council's housing managing agent for a year. I have a background in business and IT journalism. I am interested in the strategic aspect of housing management, and hope to provide a useful input if called upon.

