

ARCH Tenants' Conference 2019

Thursday 3 October
Bridlington Spa, Bridlington

Programme

09:15 Registration and networking refreshments

10:00 Welcome and opening remarks
*Chair: **Jenny Hill**, ARCH Tenants' Group Chair*

10:05 Council address
***Councillor Pat Smith**, Chairman, East Riding of Yorkshire Council*

10:10 Celebrating the Addison Act - 100 years of Council Housing
2019 marks the centenary of the Addison Act. This presentation will celebrate the centenary by taking a look at what a couple of our member councils and their tenants are doing to mark the occasion as well as looking forward to the Government's promise of "a new deal for social housing" in the Social Housing Green Paper.

***Dennis Smith**, ARCH Tenants' Group Member, Tendring District Council,
Stella Parkin, ARCH Tenants' Group Member, Rotherham Federation*

10:30 Opening plenary: Keeping your home safe
The tragic fire at Grenfell Tower has brought safety in the home into sharp focus. The Government have stated their intention to give residents a stronger voice and allow them to hold those responsible for the safety of their home to account. In this opening session we will look at what this means for tenants and how you and your landlord can keep your home safe.

Fire Safety

In this session we will discuss the importance of both landlord and tenant responsibilities when it comes to fire safety.

***William Davidson**, Fire Risk Assessor, HFR Solutions CIC and Fire Protection Association*

Gas and electrical safety

This session will include details of how to take steps to protect yourself from carbon monoxide poisoning, how to keep your appliances safe, what contractors do to help protect you when they come into your home, and an update on government policies and mandatory practices coming into place.

***Marc Cross**, Managing Director with **Robert Welsh** and **Graham-Campbell Wilson**,
The Gas Company*

11:10 The future of safety regulation

The Government are proposing to establish a new Building Safety Regulator to oversee building safety and the operation and enforcement of a new safety regime for high-rise residential buildings. In this session we will explore how the new Regulator might work with the existing Regulator of Social Housing and what this means for tenants of all types of social housing.

Jonathan Walters, Deputy Chief Executive, Regulator of Social Housing

11:40 Q&A panel session

An opportunity for delegates to ask questions to a panel of all speakers about safety in your home.

12:00 Community Champion Award presentation

12:10 Networking lunch

13:00 Workshops

Workshop 1: The future of Sheltered Housing

After recently completing a consultation on sheltered housing, East Riding of Yorkshire Council will share information about this important project, including a look at why they decided a consultation was needed, who was involved, what the findings were, what changes they have already implemented and what the next steps are. Here tenants will be able to learn new ideas and best practice that they can take back and discuss with their own council about sheltered housing in their area.

Speakers to be confirmed, East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Chaired by Martyn Lund, ARCH Tenants' Group Member

Workshop 2: Housing complaints – what can we expect?

The response to the Social Housing Green Paper suggests that many tenants are unhappy with the existing system for handling complaints and it is widely expected that the Government in their response to the Green Paper will propose some significant changes to the system. This workshop will explore what the new system will look like and what it will mean for tenants and residents.

Dave Simmons, Sector Development Lead, The Housing Ombudsman

Chaired by Nev Allinson, ARCH Tenants' Group Member

14:00 Feedback from breakout sessions

Martyn Lund and Nev Allinson, ARCH Tenants' Group Members

14:10 Closing plenary: The future for tenants

Outgoing Prime Minister Theresa May promised to publish in September an action plan and timetable for implementing wide ranging reforms of social housing following the Social Housing Green Paper. In this closing session we will look at what the future holds for tenants and residents of council housing.

Including time for Q&A

John Bibby, Chief Executive, ARCH

14:55 Chair's closing comments

Chair: Jenny Hill, ARCH Tenants' Group Chair

15:00 Close of conference