

DRAFT MINUTES



Tenants Together Meeting held on Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 10.00 a.m. via Zoom

Meeting Chair – Shona Gorman

Name	Initials	Position	Local Authority Area
Present:			
Colin Stewart	CS	Chair	Aberdeen City
Shona Gorman	SG	Vice-Chair	Falkirk
Gordon Saunders	GS	Treasurer	Scottish Borders
Alasdair Mackenzie	AMacK	Committee Member	Western Isles
Anne Cameron	AC	Committee Member	South Ayrshire
John Duffy	JD	Committee Member	North Lanarkshire
Kath Fennell	KF	Committee Member	Orkney
Liz Mcknockiter	LMck	Committee Member	Moray
Lors Robinson-Moseley	LR-M	Committee Member	West Lothian
Margaret Dymond	MD	Committee Member	Renfrewshire
Sarah-Jane Dunbar	SJD	Committee Member	Stirling
Scott MacLeod	SMacL	Committee Member	Highlands

In attendance:			
Carolynne Watson	CW	Tenant Priorities Team	Scottish Government

Apologies:			
Bev Davenport	BD	Committee Member	Moray
Bruce Cuthbertson	BC	Committee Member	East Ayrshire
June Anderson	JA	Co-optee	Clackmannanshire
Linda Lennie	LL	Committee Member	Orkney
Margaret Anderson	MA	Committee Member	South Ayrshire
Ruth Fraser	RF	Committee Member	Aberdeenshire
Teresa Gallagher	TG	Committee Member	Glasgow
Willie Derrick	WD	Committee Member	Stirling

Absent:			
Lewis McGill	LMcG	Committee Member	Aberdeen City
Lisa Clayton	LC	Committee Member	Fife

Scotland's tenant participation and engagement network

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	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
1	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of interest</p> <p>SG welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting apologies as above.</p> <p>Under Declarations of Interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS noted his role on the Board of the Scottish Housing Regulator; • GS noted his role on the Board of TIS; • MD noted her role on the Board of TPAS; • SG noted her role on the Board of Link Group; • SMacL noted his role on the Board of Albryn Housing Society; 	xxx
2	<p>Business Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Matters Arising – Previous Minutes approval</u>: CS updated on the process for approval of meeting minutes, noting that the draft minutes for the June meeting have not yet reached the threshold of 75% in attendance for approval on Basecamp. Without approval, meeting minutes cannot be published. CS requested members who were present at each meeting indicate their approval or requested amendments via Basecamp promptly when these are posted to allow for publication. In relation to the June minutes, JD provided verbal approval; the minutes were therefore approved and will be published following today's meeting. <p><u>CS said to NOTE</u> – you cannot approve minutes if you were not in attendance at the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Treasurer's report</u>: GS presented the Treasurer's report for the period since 1 June, per the following: Opening balance - £959.68 Money in - £10,269.80 Money out - £6,219.19 Closing balance - £5010.29 Expenditure during this period included travel and subsistence costs associated with the in-person meeting in August, and website maintenance costs. • <u>Correspondence</u>: • Resignations: CS notified members of Liz Richardson's recent resignation from the committee, and members noted their gratitude for Liz's commitment and hard work during her time with TTS and the Regional Networks. CS updated on points made by Liz on financial reporting and members agreed to provide more detail on expenditure as part of the Treasurer's report going forward. Liz also highlighted that Tenants Together's three office bearers are RSL tenants and noted her view that local authority tenants should be represented. The committee agreed that the 	

perspective of local authority tenants is reflected in TTS's work, and CS emphasised that all members are eligible to stand for office bearer positions at AGMs regardless of background.

- **Committee membership:** CS updated on recent developments on committee membership with June Anderson and Irina Lazarenko, noting that as neither June nor Irina are currently tenants of or in receipt of services from a social landlord, they are unable to remain as committee members per the constitution. CS confirmed that following a meeting with June, she has agreed to remain with Tenants Together as a co-optee. Members agreed June brings a very valuable perspective and breadth of experience to the work of TTS and are delighted she has agreed to be co-opted to the committee.

CS also noted he is taking steps to contact Irina Lazarenko.

- **Meeting with Cabinet Secretary for Housing:** CS confirmed that he has been invited to an introductory meeting with the Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Mairi McAllan, on Thursday 9 October and will raise key priorities and areas of interest for TTS members and tenants at this meeting.

- TTS updates

The Communications Strategy and Action Plan are now complete, and the next step will be to review the actions to identify members and/ or appropriate sub-groups to lead on implementing each action.

TTS have been asked to participate in a meeting with staff from Cairn Housing, and SG and GS agreed to attend. Cairn currently have no active RTOs or tenants groups and TTS have been asked to discuss the impact of tenant participation in service development and delivery.

TTS office bearers have participated in judging for the annual CIH Excellence Awards in three categories. This year's awards will be presented on 14 November.

Since the last TTS meeting, members have attended the **Housing Scotland 2025 Conference and Exhibition** and the recent SHARE event on the Scottish Housing Regulator.

SMacL updated on the TIS Rent Setting event where he participated in a panel discussion, with a key theme emerging from the event a broad consensus among delegates on the fact that the model of CPI + 1 in the sector is effectively unworkable at times of high inflation.

There will be no TIS conference this autumn; instead TIS will be holding a Tenant Participation Summit at the beginning of November.

	<p>CS noted that he has posted some information on free training courses available on Basecamp, including digital skills and some sector-specific online learning.</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Subgroups</p> <p>Accessibility group: CW noted that ScGo colleagues have indicated the AHIL group is likely to resume in some form in the coming months, and will remain in contact with colleagues on this. TPAS have previously been asked to support Tenants Together’s sub-group on independent living; and this will be progressed before the December TTS meeting.</p> <p>SHR Liaison group: The last meeting of the group with SHR took place in August and covered discussions on cladding, tenant engagement and the importance of meaningful tenant scrutiny and the current role of the Regulator. The SHR team also provided an update on the National Panel report on the issues and priorities of importance to tenants and service users. Liaison group Chair and SHR Board member Helen Trouten-Torres will be producing a blog following each meeting on the key topics of discussion, and a blog following the August meeting has been published on the SHR website.</p> <p>The SHR Liaison group will meet the new Chair of the SHR, Garry Coutts along with Michael Cameron at the face to face in Glasgow in November.</p> <p>SG noted that following Liz Richardson’s recent resignation, AMack will be joining the SHR Liaison group. LMck has also recently joined the group.</p> <p>Net Zero/ Decarbonisation: TTS will be working with Changeworks to represent tenants and their experience of decarbonisation in social housing. CW suggested getting in touch with colleagues from the SG’s Heat in Buildings team to share views, priorities and challenges of tenants in relation to decarbonisation and members agreed they would be keen to progress this.</p> <p>HRA: CW noted that TPAS have previously been asked to support Tenants Together’s working group on HRA and to support with any projects that flow from the group. This will be progressed with TPAS.</p> <p>Rent consultation: TPAS will also be supporting with Tenants Together’s project on rent consultation, and a date will be agreed for an initial meeting on this to begin scoping work for this project.</p> <p>Social media: The Social Media group held an initial meeting with Fawn Russell, TIS, to discuss planning for social media, including considering potential content, platforms and governance/ moderation. The group will update on their next steps via Basecamp going forward.</p>	

<p>4</p>	<p>Agenda Standing items</p> <p>Working group representation: CS highlighted that the list of working groups and membership are available on Basecamp for members to review and consider if they are interested in joining.</p> <p>Communications Strategy & Action Plan: As above, the office bearers will shortly be reviewing the actions set out in the Plan to identify members and/ or appropriate sub-groups to lead on implementation.</p> <p>Meeting with Cabinet Secretary: As above, CS will meet with the Cabinet Secretary for an introductory discussion on Thursday 9 October.</p>	<p>XX</p> <p>XX</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Website and Basecamp</p> <p>CS updated on TeamViewer- Quick Support, a tool which can provide remote technical assistance to members who may need digital training or support in the course of their work for TTS. CS noted that this tool will be extremely helpful in supporting members to participate without incurring extra costs.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Meeting dates for next year are now available on the Basecamp Yellow Pages and CS asked members to note these. The in-person meeting for 2026 will be on 19 August in Glasgow, in order to tie in with the SHR Liaison group's in-person meeting on 18 August to avoid members having to travel twice, and to make most efficient use of spend.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 3 December at 10am – Via Zoom</p>	

Date	06-Nov-2025
Proposed	AMacK
Seconded	AC