

Competition opens to deliver new training and support programme for social housing residents

- £500,000 government grant will provide training for social housing residents to speak up and raise issues with their landlord
- Applications now open for organisations with relevant social housing sector experience to deliver the programme
- Part of wider reforms to ensure social housing residents are heard by their landlord

Social housing residents will be able to get training and support to speak up and raise issues with their landlord, the government has announced today (15 August 2022).

A £500,000 government grant to provide training, boost confidence and offer toolkits for residents on a range of social housing issues has today opened for bids.

The Resident Opportunities and Empowerment programme will run from Autumn 2022 to Spring 2025 and will empower social housing residents across England to hold their landlord to account.

It includes opportunities for residents to learn how to influence landlord decisions that affect tenants and their community. For example, guidance on how to form a residents panel will help residents in engaging with their landlords where services, such as repairs and maintenance, do not meet required standards.

The announcement is a key part of the government's commitment to re-balancing the relationship between tenants and landlords, set out in the Social Housing White Paper.

Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing Eddie Hughes MP said:

Tenants have a right for their voices to be heard – and we want to ensure they have the tools and resources to do this.

We committed to rebalancing the relationship between social housing tenants and landlords as part of our Social Housing White Paper.

This new grant will enable an organisation with expertise in the

sector to help tenants take an active role in how their home is managed.”

The £500,000 grant is open to bids from organisations or partnerships in England with relevant expertise in the social housing sector and an understanding of the importance of resident empowerment.

Applicants should have experience in:

- providing training, capacity building and access to independent information, within the social housing sector;
- working collaboratively with landlords to deliver outcomes beneficial to residents and their communities;
- establishing significant and appropriate sector links and networks, to reach social housing residents, including underrepresented demographics and new audiences
- delivering an offer which supports and adds value to the measures set out in the '[Social Housing White Paper, The Charter for Social Housing Residents](#)'; and
- delivering projects that provide value for money.

The application window is open now for 7 weeks until 2 October 2022.

Further information on the Resident Opportunities and Empowerment Grant is available in the [prospectus](#) and [frequently asked questions](#).

If you have any questions on the grant or your application, please contact the Department on SHWPPM0@levellingup.gov.uk.

Find more information on the [Social Housing White Paper](#).