New expert group created to advise on improvements to social housing sector

News story

Experts from across the housing sector have been brought together to form a new expert panel to advise the government on the delivery of the social housing white paper.



The <u>social housing white paper</u> — published last year — outlines a wideranging package of reforms to improve standards for residents and enhance regulation of the sector.

The reforms aim to deliver long-lasting and meaningful change — addressing safety issues, strengthening the complaints process, professionalising staff and rebalancing the relationship between resident and landlord.

Eddie Hughes MP, Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing said:

Giving social housing residents a stronger voice and ensuring landlords raise standards is at the heart of our landmark reforms to transform the sector.

The expert panel will help to ensure that we deliver on these reforms, bringing together people who will scrutinise our plans and guarantee we achieve the vision set out in the Charter.

The panel will meet four times over the next year to provide scrutiny and advice as the government implements the social housing white paper. This follows extensive engagement with residents, housing associations and other stakeholders.

The government has already made progress to improve the quality and safety of social housing — launching a <u>review of the Decent Homes Standard</u>, a <u>working group on electrical safety</u>, and holding a <u>consultation on smoke and carbon monoxide alarms</u>, as well as running a national campaign to raise awareness of

how to seek redress when things go wrong.

The social housing white paper outlines that every social housing resident should expect to:

- be safe in your home
- know how your landlord is performing
- have your complaints dealt with promptly and fairly
- be treated with respect
- have your voice heard by your landlord
- have a good quality home and neighbourhood to live in
- be supported to take your first step to ownership

Membership of the Expert Challenge Panel is:

- Chartered Institute for Housing
- Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence
- Communities that Work
- Confederation of Co-operative Housing
- De Montfort University
- Grenfell United
- HACT
- Local Government Association
- National Federation of Tenant Management Organisations
- National Housing Federation
- Shelter
- Social Value Lab
- Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse
- TAROE Trust
- Tpas

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