

# LANGSTANE HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

## MEMBERSHIP POLICY

### 1. Aims and Objectives

Membership of Langstane Housing Association is open to anyone with an interest in and support for the Association's Mission Statement: "To provide housing which promotes social inclusion and generates sustainable communities".

Membership is particularly welcome from the Association's tenants, its applicants and those who represent or work with those special needs groups catered for by the Association.

In reviewing its membership, the Association will attempt to maintain a gender balance and to encourage membership from ethnic minority groups or from those with a disability.

### 2. Recruitment Priorities

The Association shall, through its Tenant Participation Policy and otherwise, regularly communicate with its tenants, informing them of their right to apply for membership of the Association.

The Association will also encourage membership applications from amongst its waiting list and from its partner organisations such as care providers, voluntary groups and others.

The Association is positive about recruiting from ethnic minorities and from those with a disability and will actively seek more effective ways of communicating with them.

### 3. Procedure

Any person interested in becoming a member of the Association shall apply in writing to the Company Secretary who will refer the application to the first available meeting of the Committee of Management. As membership is open, the Committee of Management will normally approve the application but they shall be entitled to refuse it if they are satisfied that granting membership may create a conflict of interest, that granting membership is not consistent with the aims and objectives with the Association or that there is some other substantial reason.

In the event that the application is refused, the grounds for refusal shall be communicated to the applicant within 14 days of the meeting of the Committee of Management.

There shall be no right of appeal against the refusal of the application although there shall be no prohibition on anyone who has been refused making a fresh application which the Association shall be obliged to entertain.

In all other cases, on the granting of the application for membership, the Company Secretary shall confirm the position in writing to the applicant who, upon payment of the sum of £1.00, shall be entitled to be enrolled on the Register of Members and thereafter entitled to the full benefits of membership.

#### **4. Benefits of Membership**

The members of the Association shall be invited, in accordance with the Association's rules, to all Annual, Extraordinary or Special General Meetings and shall receive all relevant papers.

The members of the Association shall receive copies of all Annual Reports.

As members, they shall be entitled to stand for election to the Committee of Management, in accordance with the Association's rules.

The Association shall seek to identify ways of consulting the membership on a regular basis on all major policy issues.

#### **5. Review**

The Association, through its Committee of Management, shall at intervals of not more than 2 years, review the membership against the aims of this policy and in particular review the number of tenants in membership, the gender balance and the number of applicants coming from ethnic minorities or those with a disability. The Committee of Management shall then review the policy, amend it as it thinks fit and take such steps as it deems appropriate to promote membership of the Association.

**Date Approved by Committee of Management: 17.03.08**

**Date Due for Review by Committee of Management: March 2010**