

Langstane Housing Association

**Register of Tenant
Associations
&
Organisations**

What is a Registered Tenants Organisation?

The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 introduced the concept of the Registered Tenant Organisation. These are tenant groups or associations that meet certain **criteria** as set out by the Scottish Executive.

The concept of registered tenant organisations is central to the tenant participation process.

Registered tenant organisations are independent organisations set up primarily to represent tenants' and or residents housing and related interests. The aim of the registration process is to give tenant organisations a recognised role in tenant participation.

It is hoped that the registration of tenants groups will allow more meaningful participation to take place and give registered tenant organisations rights to be consulted.

The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 sets out the proposals on which a landlord should consult its tenants and registered tenant organisations. These include:

- Its policy in relation to housing management, repairs or maintenance, where the proposal is likely to affect the tenant
- The standard of service in relation to housing management, repairs and maintenance which it intends to provide
- Its tenant participation strategy
- A transfer of housing to a new landlord
- Rent increases

Landlords must maintain a register of tenants organisations, which meet certain criteria, set out by the Scottish Executive. This register will be available to the general public to view.

The criteria for becoming a registered tenants organisation is shown in the tables below.

Criteria for Registering Tenants' Organisations – Explained

<i>What registered tenants' organisations must have</i>	<i>How this will benefit the organisations</i>
<p>1. A written constitution, which sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Its objectives and area of operation• How people can join the group• The way the committee operates• How people become committee members or office bearers• How the business of the organisation is carried out• How decisions will be made democratically• How funds will be managed• How public meetings will be organised• Details of the annual general meeting• How changes can be made to the constitution , and;• The groups commitment to equal opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It will clarify for everyone exactly who the group represents• It will show that you are elected and make decisions in a democratic way• It will show how people can become more involved in running the affairs of the group• It will show that groups operate in a business like manner• It will show that groups manage their funds appropriately• It will show regular meetings are held and members can get involved in them• It will show that constitutional changes are made legally• It will show that groups are working to promote equal opportunities

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2. A committee that:

- Is elected at an AGM (after the first year)
- Has at least three members
- Can co-opt other people onto the committee during the year
- Has elected office bearers
- Can show that decisions are reached democratically, and;
- Promotes equal opportunities

3. The organisation must operate within:

- A defined geographical area, and
- An area which includes housing stock owned and managed by the landlord with whom it is seeking to register; or
- Membership of the organisation and participation in its activities must be open to all tenants within its area of operation

What registered tenants' organisations must have

4. The organisation must have appropriate accounting records and present an annual financial statement at the AGM

5. The organisation must demonstrate that it represents the interests of its members and represent their views when consulted by the landlord

- This demonstrates that groups have been elected in a democratic way and that it is working to represent its members

- This makes sure that groups are clear about who they represent and that all tenants in the area are included in their work
- It will also make sure that the landlord involves these groups in the participation activities

- This shows that the group manages its finances in an appropriate manner and is open to scrutiny by its members and others on at least an annual basis

- This shows that the group works to make sure that other tenants are informed of the landlords proposals and their views are taken into account when giving feedback to the landlord

Register of Tenants Organisations

The following groups have achieved registered status with Langstane Housing Association.

1. South Aberdeenshire Tenant Resident Association (S.A.T.R.A)

S.A.T.R.A operates in South Aberdeenshire from the boundaries of City of Aberdeen extending westwards to Braemar (Dee Valley) and as far South as Johnshaven. Its aims is to safe guard and promote the interests of tenants, residents and the homeless in the Association's area and to have equal rights on matters relating to housing, the environment, social matters and community life.

Membership is open to all tenants and residents within South Aberdeenshire.

Contact details

1 Highfield Court
Stonehaven
AB39 2PL

Telephone Number / Fax: (01569) 766108

Email address: satra.1@tiscali.co.uk

2. Blackhall Wynd Tenants Organisation

Blackhall Wynd Tenants Organisation only operates in the Blackhall Wynd scheme in Inverurie. The organisation was mainly set up to deal with the welfare of the tenants and deal with any problems arising from the general up keep and preservation of Blackhall Wynd.

Membership is open to tenants of Blackhall Wynd, Inverurie. Inverurie is in Aberdeenshire and is 16 miles North – West of Aberdeen.

Contact details

5 Blackhall Wynd
Inverurie
AB51 3PW

Telephone Number: (01467) 629642