

## **Minutes of the Cross Party Housing Group**

**6pm Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

**Committee Rooms C & D Ty Hywel**

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### **Present**

Sandy Mewies AM	Chair
Jocelyn Davies AM	Plaid Cymru Housing Spokesperson
Carl Sargeant AM	Minister for Housing and Regeneration
Keith Edwards	CIH Cymru (Secretary)
Lee Cecil	National Landlords Association
Douglas Haig	Residential Landlords Association
Julie Nicholas	CIH Cymru
John Puzey	Shelter Cymru
Aaron Hill	Community Housing Cymru
Ceri Cryer	Age Cymru
Auriol Miller	Cymorth Cymru
Jim Bird-Waddington	Caer Las

### **Apologies**

Peter Black AM, Mark Isherwood AM, John Dysdale TPAS Cymru, Steve Clarke Welsh Tenants and Neil Williams Care and Repair Cymru

### **Welcome**

The Secretary explained that the plenary session was likely to go on until 7pm although there was a possibility that the Chair and Minister would join us before then. In the absence of AMs the group discussed current priorities and future activities

### **Update from Minister**

The Chair joined the meeting with the Minister and Jocelyn Davies AM at 6.25. It was agreed to truncate the meeting as AMs would have to return to plenary shortly and to therefore concentrate on an update from the Minister and questions.

The Minister said that he wasn't able to share the detail of the forthcoming Housing Bill with us as this would be published on 18<sup>th</sup> November. However he said that the main areas likely to be included were fairly open knowledge and these included

- Improving the Private Rented Sector
- Actions to prevent Homelessness
- Gypsy and Traveller sites
- Achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standard
- Abolition of the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy system
- Co-operative Housing

Jocelyn Davies AM raised her concerns on suggestions that the status of ex prisoners would be changed in terms of homelessness priorities There was also a general discussion on timetable and process.

## **Future Meetings**

Members would be consulted on themes over the next few weeks and the Chair and Secretary would meet to review and plan the first session in 2014.

Given time limitations the meeting closed at 6.45.

It was decided to postpone the Annual General Meeting scheduled to be held after the meeting to a date to be arranged.