

Housing Plus Think Tank**Tackling an uncertain future: Are social landlords a problem or solution?**

An open forum led by LSE Housing and Communities to uncover the positive contributions of social landlords and demonstrate their value

Outline Programme

Wednesday 13th February 2013

National Communities Resource Centre, Trafford Hall, nr Chester

Chaired by Professor Anne Power, London School of Economics
and Liz Richardson, University of Manchester

An informal supper and housing debate will be held on the evening of Tuesday 12th February. Speakers will include David Montague – L&Q, Geraldine Howley – Incommunities, and Anne Power – LSE. Bed and breakfast accommodation is available

- 9.00-9.30 Arrival and registration
- 9.30-10.00 **Session 1: Introduction: Why Housing Plus? Why now? Where are we heading?**
- Housing Plus – reinventing a 1990s concept. Why now?
Helen Williams, National Housing Federation
 - Why are social landlords pivotal in 2013?
Anne Power, London School of Economics
- 10.00-11.15 **Session 2: Vital actors in a sea of change**
- What models and experiments are there?
Gareth Swarbrick, Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (TBC)
 - Finance, work, skills, care, youth, community...
Gail Walters, Midland Heart
 - Who pays, who gains?
Sinead Butters, Aspire Housing
- 11.15-11.30 Break and refreshments
- 11.30-12.45 **Session 3: Making a difference in communities**
- Why do housing associations and councils matter to society?
Phil Miles, Affinity
 - Will social housing providers stick to their core mission as landlords?
Jon Lord, Bolton at Home
 - What stands in their way or loses them support?
Liz Haworth, Helena Partnerships
- 12.45-14.45 Lunch, followed by a tour of Trafford Hall and its grounds

13.30-14.45 **Session 4: Being a good and enterprising social landlord in troubled times**

- Building on philanthropic and co-operative traditions?
Grahame Hindes, Octavia
- Can housing associations afford to build new homes?
Helen Evans, Network Housing
- What role can private renting play?
David Montague, L&Q

14.45-15.00 Break & refreshments

15.00-16.15 **Session 5: Building resilience**

- What can tenants and communities contribute?
Dave Smith, Citizens UK
- How can housing associations and local authorities help their tenants?
Geraldine Howley, Incommunities
- How can we support the poorest households?
- Examples of resilience

16.15-16.45 Round-up

16.45 End and depart

Supporters: National Housing Federation, Department for Communities and Local Government, Higher Education Innovation Fund, National Communities Resource Centre