

Residents get involved in policy making



The Policy Team with some of the new and amended policies under discussion

There was a day of interaction and debate at Eden Housing Association last week as tenants and residents took the chance to get involved in the development of new policies.

Organised by Stella Jones, Housing Officer, the day included a review of 14 new policies and was a real chance for tenants and residents to highlight items to be included, clarified or taken out. Break out sessions debated how the policies could be improved and the groups tackling a wide range of issues from eviction and illegal occupancy to harassment and domestic abuse. With 14 policies to debate, there were light-hearted moments to break the sessions but at the end of the day, each of the 14 policies had amendments, revisions and recommendations for improvements as a result of the consultation.

Stella Jones said "We really appreciate the contribution from our residents, it has been very challenging and hard work - but very rewarding to see the positive impact our residents have made. Everyone contributed valuable input during the day and we will be revising the draft policies to take account of what has been discussed."

Involving tenants in policy making is just one of a range of initiatives undertaken by the Association. Last month EHA hosted a 'national conversation' on how social housing should be developed in the future for 'ECHO' - the united voice of tenants and residents.

Anyone wanting to get involved with the ECHO tenant and resident forum should contact Heidi Ware on 01768 861 415 or email getinvolved@edenha.org.uk