

**CARE AND REPAIR SCOTLAND
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER 2019
AT CITIZENM, 60 RENFREW STREET, GLASGOW, G2 3BW**

Present: Gerry Power, The Alliance (Chair)
Blair Allan, SFHA
Stewart Wilson, Region 1
Andy Douglas, Region 2
Angela Brunton, Region 3
Elizabeth Eadie, Region 4

Robert Thomson, National Director

1. Welcome and Apologies

Gerry chaired the meeting. He welcomed Board members to the meeting, especially Blair who was attending after a long period of illness. There were apologies from Gerry Begg ALACHO who is on annual leave. Robert advised that Angela O'Brien from the Scottish Government Independent Living Team would be unable to attend.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minute of 20th September meeting was approved without amendment.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Action: Robert will circulate the Move On document produced by Foundations. Elizabeth will email offices about taking up the offer of draft proofing materials.

Information sent out.

Action: Robert to advise A9 Partnership about the decision regarding Digital Inclusion surplus.

A9 advised that it would be better to include the surplus in Restricted Funds with a note of the purposes for which it would be used. The accounts were agreed by email and signed as approved on 21st October. Robert advised that OSCR has accepted the accounts and published them on their website.

Action: Robert to take advice from EVH about succession planning statement.

EVH has developed this information into a training course and charges £150 for 90 minutes.

Action: Robert to confirm the arrangements for meeting on Friday 13th in Glasgow at 10.30

Arrangements were made.

The Board discussed A9's advice and agreed that the surplus should be spent by CRS for the purposes described in the notes to the accounts. It was agreed that it would be useful to receive the EVH training on succession planning provided it could be delivered at one of the Board meetings in 2020

5. Housing to 2040

The Board discussed the Scottish Government paper and its implications for Care and Repair in Scotland. The response given by regional meetings to the previous Housing Beyond 2021 paper was considered and it was suggested that we should also tie in Care and Repair to fuel poverty measures.

Action: Robert to send the 2040 discussion paper to all regions and ask if they still agree with the previous response. He will update the response with any revisions and send the redraft to the Board for comment prior to submission to SG

6. National Director's Report

The Board approved the report.

Robert raised the concerns of the equity release officers about the casework delays experienced because of the procedures adopted by Anderson Strathearn and EST. He asked Board members to consider writing to Kevin Stewart, Housing Minister to highlight our concerns.

Robert highlighted the lived experience comments from the recent Housing Sub Group of About Dementia which clearly shows the value of small repairs interventions. There was a strong concern expressed at the meeting about the 'postcode lottery' of Care and Repair service delivery which is a result of the Scheme of Assistance legislation.

The falls prevention video is almost complete and will likely be launched in January.

Action: Robert to liaise with the equity release officers and draft a letter to the Minister. The overall tone of the letter should be that the equity scheme has been a big success, not that it has become a big problem. The letter should be two pages long with an appendix comprising of two case studies with positive comments from clients and a chart highlighting the serious delays in case approvals. The letter should praise the Minister for supporting an equity scheme in Scotland when repeated attempts to introduce one in England and Wales have failed. The letter should also ask about the review of the scheme and the plans for its future development.

7. Financial Statement

The Board noted and approved the Financial Statement to 9th December.

8. Annual Conference

The Board considered the arrangements for the conference which will be held on Friday 6th March 2020 in The Westerwood Hotel. It was suggested that we should consider a 'bring a

client offer 'to offices. It would be ideal if clients would be able to speak of their experience. The Care and Repair video should be played during lunch/ coffee breaks.

Action: Stewart to write to Norman Kerr OBE, Director of Energy Action Scotland, and ask if he will speak. Regional representative will email their members and encourage attendance at the conference. The Housing Minister will be invited although it is a constituency day so he may not be free.

9. Scottish Quality Mark

The Board considered a complaint received from Lochalsh and Skye about the cost for re-accreditation. It was agreed that it was very valuable to have Foundations independently examine the evidence and therefore the cost is justified. CRS do not charge for assessment visits. The accreditation costs can be offset in the revenue budget over three years.

Action: Robert to advise Lochalsh and Skye of Board's decision.

10. Consultation on Building and Fire Safety

The Board agreed that the proposal from South Lanarkshire Care and Repair around a fund for elderly and disabled homeowners should be include in a CRS response to the document.

11. AOCB

Blair thanked Gerry for becoming Chair during his absence. Blair did not think that he would be away for so long and was pleased to be back. The Board also thanked Gerry and expressed their good wishes to Blair.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 20th March in Glasgow. The venue will be Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE), Venlaw Building, 349 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4AA.

Action: Robert to ask EVH if the succession planning training can be delivered