

London Tenants Federation

CONSTITUTION

The use of 'tenant' in this constitution refers to all council tenants, leaseholders and others who contribute to the Housing Revenue Account, to the exclusion of others.

1. LONDON TENANTS FEDERATION

The London Tenants Federation (LTF) is an umbrella organisation bringing together London's borough wide council tenant federations and organisations. It is an independent organisation founded on democratic principles and is not affiliated to party political organisations.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Member Participation and Accountability

1. The LTF aims to provide a united voice for council tenants across London regarding all housing and related issues.

It will:

2. Encourage involvement in the LTF of all London's borough wide council tenant federations and organisations
3. Provide a forum for exchange and sharing of information between London's borough wide council tenant federations and organisations through regular meetings and conferences.
4. Acknowledge the membership and linkages of its member organisations. *
5. Accommodate the diversity of views and opinions within LTF member organisations and reach consensus through thorough debate.
6. Promote the involvement of London's council tenants at all levels of decision-making relating to our homes and communities.
7. Promote and encourage existing democratic and accountable borough wide council tenant structures and encourage the establishment of new ones, where currently none exist.
8. Lead the way in the development of appropriate tenant structures to facilitate the engagement of tenants of all tenures, across London.

* *Some borough wide council tenants' federations and organisations also include freeholders and RSL tenants.*

National and Regional Involvement

The LTF will

9. Enable engagement of council tenants in debate on housing issues at the national, regional and sub regional level and promote LTF members representation on regional and sub-regional decision-making bodies.
10. Elect LTF representatives / delegates for any regional or sub regional structures, on an annual basis, at annual general meetings. Delegates shall act in ways consistent with agreed LTF policy and strategy and will provide reports to the membership.
11.
 - (i) Respond to government consultation on issues affecting its members and London's council tenants.
 - (ii) Lobby on behalf of its members interests
 - (iii) Participate in and initiate campaigns in relation to our homes and communities as agreed by LTF meetings.

Internal and External Communication

The LTF will

12. Form links and positive relationships with other social housing and private sector tenants as well as those of no tenure and other regional, national and international tenants' organisations.
13. The LTF will be accountable to London council tenants through LTF member organisations, the LTF newsletter and the LTF website.
14.
 - (i) Hold regular meetings and conferences.
 - (ii) Produce regular briefings and newsletters.
 - (iii) Engage in events organised by other bodies that have an interest in housing and related issues.

3. MEMBERSHIP AND DECISION MAKING

1. The LTF welcomes membership from London's borough wide tenants' federations and organisations. Fair and equitable rules governing the criteria for membership, participation and decision making are set out in the LTF's policies and procedures.
2. Decisions taken at LTF meetings will make up the policy and strategy of the LTF and, wherever possible, LTF policy and strategy should reflect a broad consensus of members' views.
3. Members attending LTF meetings can decide to set up sub-groups and to delegate day-to-day decision-making, including the conduct of any urgent business, to these sub-groups or to its employees. In all instances, other than urgent business, LTF meetings shall play the main role in all decision-making.

4. In exceptional circumstances, the LTF can resolve to expel any member or delegate from the Federation if it believes that the individual or their organisation has been acting so as to undermine the LTF, its aims and objectives.
5. General LTF meetings will be held at least six times a year. At least seven days notice will be given of general meetings. Extraordinary general meetings can be called by a sub group or by petition from representatives of six full member organisations. At least fourteen days notice shall be given of any extraordinary general meeting. AGMs will require 28 days notice. Meeting procedures and conduct will be laid out in the LTF policies and procedures.
6. The LTF can be dissolved by a resolution at a general meeting. Fourteen days notice must be given of any such resolution and will require the support of two thirds of those present at a general meeting. The terms of any such resolution to dissolve the LTF shall not be implemented until at least 28 days after the passing of such a resolution.
7. Should the LTF be dissolved any monies, other than that which would be required to be returned to any funding source, shall be donated to a charitable housing organisation determined by the meeting.

4. EQUALITIES

The LTF will positively promote equal opportunities and will encourage diversity. Specifically, it will treat all members and persons in the wider community equally, whatever their race, colour, ethnic origin, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexuality, HIV status, physical or mental disability, state of health, appearance, marital status, and family circumstances; actual or perceived.

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