

London Tenants Federation

Letters
Inside Housing

17th June 2008

Given that rent levels, rent differentials and how well our homes are managed, maintained and repaired are bread and butter issues for most tenant representatives, we must surely ask why government hasn't seen fit to extend its rhetoric on tenant empowerment and involvement to the HRA review.

There are three national, six regional and hundreds of local council tenants federations, so it wouldn't have been so difficult to have encouraged and enabled tenants to engage in debate from the local to the national level and to have formally invited them to bring their concerns and proposals regarding issues they consider important, to the table.

However, the orchestration of the process and debate so far, in an anything but open and transparent fashion, would indicate government's intention is to keep its intended direction and the detail of how the professionals think this can be achieved, as far away from tenants as possible.

If any of the invited members of the CIH workshops feel a tiny bit uncomfortable about colluding in this, perhaps the next time they are at the CIH they might consider asking, the following - why out of 60 or so members of the CIH HRA review workshops are there only three tenants; why are the minutes of the workshops so conspicuously absent from the CIH website; why are there only two 'regional' CIH events proposed in July, why are these events 'invite only' and finally and more broadly, why is the tenant empowerment and engagement element absent from this review?

Michael Beverley
Secretary
London Tenants Federation

LTF is an umbrella organisation bringing together London's borough wide council tenant federations and organisations

London Tenants Federation, C/o Camden Federation of T&RA, 11- 17 The Marr, Camden St, London NW1 0HE

E-mail info@londontenants.org Tel 020 7874 5464 Web Address www.londontenants.org