

Conference Times



Over 300 delegates attend Tenants' conference in Dundee

Tenant representatives from across Scotland took part in the Tenant Participation Advisory Service's 30th anniversary conference this weekend, at the Apex Hotel in Dundee. **Lesley Baird**, TPAS Chief Executive said, "people have travelled from as far afield as Shetland and Cardiff to take part in this year's conference, we're delighted with the turn out. **Steve Byrne** from Campbelltown declared this year's conference as "the best TPAS event yet".

Tenant 'Oscars' sets tone for tenants' conference



West Lothian Council delegates collect award

Oscar style awards were presented, marking a year of hard work by tenant representatives and landlords in local communities. **Jim Coleman** of Lovells, the award sponsors, told delegates "these awards only touch the tip of the ice berg. Tenants and residents groups up and down the country are working to make our communities better places to live. I've seen the impact tenants' groups can have, and all of us at Lovells fully support tenant participation."

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Young people from Seaforth House, Falkirk receive their award from Jim Coleman



Hall of fame

Community Pride Fund: Dumfries & Galloway Housing Partnership's District Management Committees

Seaforth House Residents and Ex-residents group, YMCA, Falkirk

Margaret McKeand from Dumfries & Galloway Housing Partnership

Danny Mullen: West Lothian & Central Region Network

Albyn's Customer Service Implementation & Monitoring Group

Alison Kerr said "I'm really pleased **Danny Mullen** was given a special accolade for 'Tenant of the Year'. This recognises his excellent work with tenants and residents. Well done Danny.

The TPAS conference, it's a buzz!



TPAS SCOTLAND
ACCREDITED

TPAS Accreditation was awarded to:

- Cordale Housing Association
- Lovells
- Viewpoint Housing
- West Lothian Council

Conference Buzz

Graham McDonald, Glasgow "There's a great buzz about the conference, I would recommend it to anyone. I'd like to come back next year"

Margaret Dymond, Renfrewshire "Tam Cowan got it wrong, the food at the Apex Hotel is delicious."

Naomi Breeze "I love coming back to the TPAS Conference, there are some many familiar faces and everyone makes me feel so welcome"

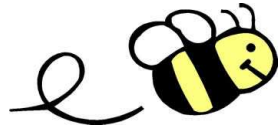
Rod Hunter on 'The Big Society' "I worry about this idea of 'The Big Society'. I know I'll be ok, I'm 6 foot 3" – its' the people who are 5 foot I really worry about."

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Housing Plays' Premiere

Naomi Breeze showcased her brand new production on Friday night. The play highlights rural life, past and future. One delegate said: "Naomi is an inspiration. Her plays are powerful and thought provoking and her workshops are full of energy and motivational."

Conference Buzz



Rita Buchan, Aberdeen "The TPAS conference is a good training ground for new tenant group members."

Chris & Kathleen from the Shetland Tenants Forum "How good to see young people making such a positive impact into tenant participation and to have their hard work rewarded by receiving an award for their efforts."

Sharon Hilditch, West Lothian "Think good things about yourself, and good things will happen."

My first TPAS conference had the WOW factor! Knowing TPAS's reputation for organising events with real attention to detail whilst providing excellent value for money, I honestly wonder if it is possible to get any better. There was a real buzz about the place and as a 'seasoned conference goer' I would say it was second to none. The whole experience was a genuine 'one off'.

The play by Naomi Breeze, a fun game of Win, Lose or Draw, ending in a fantastic dinner and Awards ceremony all made my first time a great experience. Did I mention that the meals were great too? All this praise and its' not even Sunday yet, will I be back next year? You bet!

Fundraising inspiration

Think of two unrelated objects, put them together and see where it takes you. It just might create an innovative fundraising idea. **East Knightsridge Tenants and Residents** did this and came up with a sponsored berry pick in stilettos!



"Naomi gave groups tips and advice about fundraising and how to pull off a profitable event." **Janine Elliot**, West Lothian.

Highlights

Highlights of the weekend included detailed discussions and debates on:

- Anti Social Behaviour
- Proposed new housing laws
- Good practice in tenant involvement
- The future of regulation for social landlords

Conference Times

Fire Alarm

Friday night, 6 o'clock,
In the land of nod,
Ring ring buzz buzz
We're outside, no socks

Diane Currie (DGHP)



Even a false fire alarm failed to pour cold water on the conference!

* * *

This newsletter was prepared by delegates of the TPAS Annual Conference 2010

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74 – 78 Saltmarket
Glasgow
G1 5LD
T: 0141 552 3633
E: enquiries@tpasscotland.org.uk
W: www.tpasscotland.org.uk

Who was the culprit? Very Naughty!



Dennis knows his next target, do you know yours?

We hope you will leave Dundee with some new ideas and fresh thinking to take back to your groups and communities. TPAS say “good luck to all the tenant and resident volunteers who are working hard for their communities, we hope to see you all again next year.”

Conference organiser **Elaine Scoular** explained the importance of proper planning and organisation. “our delegates have high expectations of our annual conference, and we aim to give delegates the best conference experience possible. This is only possible with the help and hard work put in by Origin Events, Mathew’s sound team and the Apex Hotel.”

Next edition...October 2011