



THE SOCIAL  
HOUSING  
REGULATOR

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6th Floor  
Maple House  
149 Tottenham Court Road  
London W1T 7BN

**Tel:** 020 7393 2280

**Fax:** 020 7393 2284

**Email address:**

clae.r.lloyd-jones@tsa.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Chief Executive

This letter updates you on the appointment of the Chair of the new Regulation Committee, progress on implementing the Localism Bill and a new regulatory framework, and what we are doing to deliver our day-to-day regulatory business.

### **New Chair of Regulation Committee Appointed**

I am really delighted that Julian Ashby has been appointed the Chair of the HCA Regulation Committee. Julian has been a superb deputy chair of the TSA. I am sure you will join me in welcoming this news.

Julian will be a chair who delivers welcome continuity in terms of his knowledge of the history and operation of the regulation function, as well as a real depth of expertise and experience. He also has a very clear view about the changes needed to deliver effective regulation, given the new arrangements introduced by the Localism Bill and the rapidly developing social housing market. I am sure his appointment will give confidence to the sector and its key stakeholders.

The process for recruiting members of the Regulation Committee will begin shortly, and I will provide more information on this in a future letter. As before, I will be asking you to help publicise that opportunity so as to ensure that a wide range of good candidates come forward for consideration.

The Boards of both HCA and TSA will be working closely with the new Regulation Committee chair - and as they are appointed, the Regulation Committee members - to ensure that we are able to maintain and enhance the regulation of social housing under their leadership.

### **Consultation on changes to Regulatory Framework**

We expect to receive final Directions on the content of regulatory standards from DCLG very shortly, and to publish a consultation on changes to the regulatory framework for social housing as soon as possible after we receive the Direction.



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The Localism Bill is also close to completion. Third Reading in the Lords is scheduled for 31 October 2011. At this stage we are not anticipating any further substantive changes to the provisions on regulation.

I will write to you setting out the key changes in the document and the consultation process on the day we publish the Framework.

### **Regulation activity**

In order to smooth the transition to the HCA, the TSA restructured its regulation teams earlier this year. This process, combined with changes to business planning cycles because of the affordable rent bids, has meant that regulators have been getting to grips with new portfolios and reviewing changed business plans. This work will enable us to ensure continuity of regulation through to April 2012 and beyond. From now on providers can expect to see more of their regulators, and further delivery in our programme of published judgements. Whilst we will minimise the burden we place on you, we know how valuable many providers find face to face contact and we aim to make sure that we are available and visible to you all as this helps us be a better, more intelligent regulator.

As ever I welcome your feedback on these letters and suggestions for content for future letters.

Yours sincerely

**Claer Lloyd-Jones**  
Chief Executive