

ALMOs – Improving Housing and Lives

Since their establishment over a decade ago, ALMOs have secured an unrivalled track record of success, from meeting government targets for improving housing standards to tenant empowerment and groundbreaking new services on community safety and neighbourhood services. In doing so, they are transforming neighbourhoods and enhancing the life chances of council tenants.

- **Tenant empowerment**

Tenant involvement is fundamental to the success of our members and sets them apart from council managed schemes. Tenants have an important role in decision-making to ensure that services directly meet the needs and aspirations of residents and the wider community.

- **Knowledge of the local community**

Working within only one local authority, each ALMO has a detailed knowledge of the local community enabling it to tailor services to needs.

- **A single-minded approach to service delivery**

Separation from the council allows staff to focus purely on service delivery. Day-to-day management is handed to Boards made up of tenants, councillors and independent members who reflect the communities they serve. Strong community leadership also allows ALMOs to provide services effectively and efficiently.

- **Innovation – social inclusion, community safety & welfare**

They are key in helping councils and other agencies deliver innovative social inclusion and community safety agendas, with a reputation for innovative programmes to tackle worklessness, prevent anti-social behaviour, improve security and deal with domestic violence and racial harassment.

- **Improving people's lives**

These not-for-profit organisations contribute to the quality of the lives of their customers beyond the traditional remit of housing management through providing out of school clubs, employment and training schemes, activities for both young and older people, advice with debt reduction and tackling fuel poverty amongst others.

- **Creating decent neighbourhoods**

They recognise that improving housing standards is only one part of a wider role to improve neighbourhoods. ALMOs have an active role in regeneration and improving the local environment.

- **Future plans**

It is hoped that the future development of ALMOs will enable them to be self financing, giving them the resources and the flexibility to build new council housing, raise housing standards further and manage sustainable communities. They also want a greater role with more resources for the regeneration of neighbourhoods. In addition, our members would like longer-term management agreements with their parent local authorities allowing them to make the most of their resources in their business plans and deliver real change in their neighbourhoods.

For further information please contact:

Chloe Fletcher, NFA Policy Director

Phone: 07515050207 Email: chloe.fletcher@almos.org.uk