Capital conference for council tenants

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Council tenants are being offered the chance to shape the city's housing services at a conference in the Capital this weekend.

The annual <u>Tenants' Conference</u> will see tenants and council housing officials coming together to discuss the best ways to improve housing and housing services. It takes place on Saturday 8 October and is called 'Involving Tenants, Improving Services'. The event has been organised by The City of Edinburgh Council and the <u>Edinburgh Tenants Federation</u>.

Among the topics for discussion are:

- New council homes in the city and the <u>Scottish Housing</u>
 <u>Quality Standard</u>
- The proposed <u>Tenant Participation Strategy</u>
- The draft <u>Scottish Social Housing Charter</u>
- Ensuring tenants get value for money for their rents

Councillor Norman Work, vice-convenor of Edinburgh's Health, Social Care and Housing Committee, will be opening the event.

He said: "It's important that tenants have a voice in how their services are provided and this conference allows them this opportunity. They can tell us what matters most to them as we want to ensure the services we provide are meeting their needs. There are undoubtedly some huge housing challenges ahead but with the help and support of our tenants we can be confident that these issues will be tackled together."

Betty Stevenson, Convenor, Edinburgh Tenants Federation, said: "Tenants should be getting involved in helping the council inform their plans to improve the services provided to the people of Edinburgh. The Conference is one way for people to do just that. I feel that Edinburgh Tenants Federation has played an important role in ensuring that tenants can have a say on things that affect their lives."

The conference will be held at the Norton Park Conference Centre in Albion Road between 9.30am and 2pm. The event is free and anyone wanting to attend should phone 0131 529 7640 or e-mail daniel.bain@edinburgh.gov.uk.