Council to talk to tenants about housing

Council tenants will be able to continue to shape the city's housing services after the green light was given to include them in future decisions.

The <u>Tenant Participation Strategy 2012-2015</u> was approved at last week's meeting of The City of Edinburgh Council's Health, Social Care and Housing Committee.

The aim is to improve the ways tenants can participate in decisions on housing and related services in their communities.

The Strategy builds on previous tenant participation events organised by the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Tenants Federation such as the annual Tenants' Conference.

Housing Leader for the City of Edinburgh Council, Councillor Paul Edie, said: "It's important that tenants have a voice in how their services are provided and this Strategy 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: "I am delighted that the Tenant Participation Strategy has been passed by the Councillors."

"Volunteers from Edinburgh Tenants Federation have worked tirelessly with the Council to agree the content of the strategy and this is the culmination of a lot of hard work. We look forward to working with the Council to ensure there are better housing conditions and services by involving tenants in decision making."

A series of events will be held in the city later in the year to promote the new strategy.