

# **Shelter & SFHA Event**

## **RSLs and Homelessness**

Jennifer Hunter  
City of Edinburgh  
Council



# Introduction

- The Edinburgh context
- Section 5/Nomination process
- Recent developments in partnership working with RSLs
- What has been impact of recent changes?
- Other areas of contribution

# The Edinburgh context

- 4800 homeless presentations/3700 P/N homeless households
- 3200 Council & RSL lets
- Extreme shortage of affordable housing
- 12,000 homes required over next 10 years
- Under AHIP the RSLs are delivering around 500 properties per year
- Require flexible and responsive social sector

## Section 5/Nominations in Edinburgh

- All RSLs signed up to protocols Dec 2002
- Void led process
- 50/50 split for mainstream stock
- Cognisance of individual RSL allocation policies
- Protocol includes sensitive let option
- Effective communication is essential element of process

# Recent Developments

- CHR(EdIndex) operating since 2003- currently 20 partner RSLs.
- Council implemented CBL within CHR 2003
- Extension of Choice to 12 RSLs since April 08 - (S5/Noms suspended)
- Harmonised Assessment of need - 8 remaining landlords since May 08
- Revised EdIndex Business Plan being launched for period 2009-2012

# Outcomes for Homeless Households

- Improved outcomes for homeless
- 2008/9- 51% of all lets through Choice went to homeless priority group
  - 59% of Council lets
  - 33% for all RSLs lets rises to an average of around 40% for all mainstream lets
- Lets by Harmonised RSLs 2008/9
  - 24% under section 5 referrals
  - 26 % Nominations (includes P/N homeless households)

# Wider RSL homeless role

- Developing new & improved accommodation services including hostels and support services.
- Supported housing- units & dispersed flats
- Strategy development
- Prevention work
- Clear city-wide message on homelessness and delivery of quality housing advice & information