

New beginnings for private renting in Scotland

Tuesday 17 April 2012
Teacher Building
Glasgow



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09:15 Registration

09:45 Welcome from the Chair

Angela McLachlan, Director of Operations, Orchard and Shipman

09:55 Making your home in the PRS, what sort of sector does Scotland need?

Graeme Brown, Director Shelter Scotland

10:10 MINISTERIAL ADDRESS – Launch of the Consultation on a Strategy for the PRS

Keith Brown MSP, Housing & Transport Minister, Scottish Government

10:25 Questions and discussion

10:35 A ten year strategy for private renting – what are the challenges we face?

Professor Douglas Robertson, School of Applied Social Science, Stirling University and Chair of the Scottish Private Rented Sector Strategy Group

10:50 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: The Private Rented Sector in Germany

Professor Felix Schindler, Centre for European Economic Research, Mannheim, Germany

11:10 Questions and discussion

11:20 Refreshments

11:50 WORKSHOPS SESSIONS

(1) Bringing empty homes back into use in the PRS

- **Kristen Hubert, Empty Homes Coordinator, Scottish Empty Homes Partnership**

(2) Information Packs for tenants

- **Barry Stalker, Principal Policy Officer, Scottish Government**

(3) Opening up the PRS to low income families – lessons learnt from PKC Lets

- **Martin Smith, Service Manager for Housing Access & Partnership, PKC Lets, Perth and Kinross Council**

(4) Letting agent charging fees to tenants, the case for and against

- **Mario Kerr, Director, Boomerang Lettings and Ian Potter, Operations Manager, ARLA**

12:45 Lunch

13:30 Changes to LHA and introduction of Universal Credit
Andrew Parfitt, Head of Housing Policy Division, DWP

13:50 Questions and discussion

14:00 Tenancy deposit protection for Scotland
Malcolm Lindo, Finance Director, Safe Deposits Scotland

14:15 Managing problem landlords – lessons from the Govanhill Hub
Patrick Flynn, Head of Housing Services, Development and Regeneration Services, Glasgow City Council

14:30 Meeting climate change targets – the challenge for private landlords
Chas Booth, Association for the Conservation of Energy and member of the steering group of the Existing Homes Alliance Scotland.

14:45 Questions and discussion

14:55 What sort of PRS do we want in ten years' time?
John Blackwood, Director, Scottish Association of Landlords

15:10 Chairs summing up

15:15 Close of conference