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## SOCIAL HOUSING ADVISORY GROUP MINUTES OF MEETING

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**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022

**Meeting Start Time and End Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**Meeting Location:** Microsoft Teams

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### **In Attendance (18)**

Alan Robins	Region of Durham
Alyssa Skan	Region of Durham
Amona Bissoon	Inter-Org
Cameal Johnson	Birch Housing
Catherine Howard	Manning Mews
Corina Stavre	Unity Village
Kathy Andreopoulos	Unity Village
Laura Lavoy	Region of Durham
Lillian Igel	Sunrise Seniors Place
Lori Barber	Region of Durham
Narrah Thuraisingam	Ajax Municipal
Nathalie Chavez	Providence Place
Nicole McClughan	Durham Non-Profit
Rebecca Phillips	Region of Durham
Roberta Jagoe	Region of Durham
Rosemary Martin	Birch Housing
Sherril Belille	Region of Durham
Stacey Leadbetter	Otter Creek

### **Regrets (2)**

Beverly Kueper	Region of Durham
Lindsay Percival	Region of Durham

### **Discussion Items**

#### **1. Welcome**

#### **2. Business arising from previous minutes**

- None

### **3. Housing Services Act – Regulatory Changes**

- Presentation by Roberta Jagoe, Policy Analyst, Housing Services Division.
- Amendments to the Housing Services Act took effect in July 2020. In March 2022, new regulations were released.
- Changes to the regulations included:
  - Service agreements and Part VII.1 providers
  - Mandatory income and asset limits
  - Service Level Standards
  - Access system requires for wait lists
- Presentation slides attached to minutes
- Any questions regarding these changes, please contact Rebecca Phillips, Lindsay Percival or Roberta Jagoe.

### **4. Operational reviews**

- Operational reviews will resume in the fall of 2022. Some housing providers will be notified of their review once a schedule has been determined.

### **5. Tenant insurance**

- Discussion regarding if housing providers have mandatory tenant insurance policies.
  - Some housing providers have mandatory renters' liability insurance. Their tenants are required to show proof of their policy at time of move-in and at annual review.
  - Some providers recommend content insurance, but no maximum amount is specified.
  - Some providers have experienced issues where tenants have shown proof of their insurance policy, but then cancel their policy afterwards.

### **6. Vacancy details for modified units**

- Housing providers are reminded that Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH) requires as much information as possible regarding vacancies. This is to ensure that applicants are making informed decisions when expressing interest in vacancies and allows DASH to make appropriate referrals to housing providers.
- Housing providers are reminded to provide as much detail as possible with respect to modified units.

- Modified units can include, but are not limited to, roll in showers, bathtub cutouts, lower countertops, etc.
- If the unit is not fully accessible, the unit should not be listed as a modified unit.
- Any questions, please contact Rebecca Phillips and Lindsay Percival.

## **7. Standing Items**

- Landlord and Tenant Board Cases
  - Housing providers are still experiencing long wait times.
  - The LTB continues to prioritize applications for illegal acts.
- Community Housing Renewal Strategy
  - See Item 3. No other updates.

## **8. New Business**

- Regional offices are now open. Masks are required within Regional facilities until the end of May 2022.
- Vera Bala, Support Housing Manager is retiring after 21 years of service at the YWCA.

## **9. Next Meeting**

- Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. | Microsoft Teams Meeting