

What's on 2020

Residential Conference

We are housing Scotland

Chairs' Conference

31 January–1 February 2020

Norton House Hotel and Spa, Ingliston, Edinburgh

Thank you to our
sponsors:



2020 Vision: What does the future hold for Governance?



#sfhachairs20

Chair's Conference 2020

2020 Vision: What does the future hold for Governance?

About the Conference

Chairs play a crucial and distinctive role providing effective leadership to their organisations. This has never been more important than right now, as housing associations in Scotland face ever-evolving challenges.

Being able to continually adapt and innovate within the regulatory landscape of our sector is essential, with the governing body leading the way.

This conference will explore what the future might hold for governance, exploring such themes as the Scottish Government's ongoing Housing 2040 consultation, succession planning, inclusive living and more in depth look at the role of the chair. It will also look at how the new Regulatory Framework is bedding in following the submission of the first Annual Assurance Statements, plus how organisations are adapting to the new Freedom of Information requirements. Throughout the conference there will be sessions where you will hear direct examples from the sector, focussing on how governance and regulation does not have to hinder innovation.

Aimed at Chairs and Vice Chairs, the conference is taking place on Friday 31 January and Saturday 1 February at the Norton House Hotel in Ingliston. It will provide an opportunity for delegates to network with peers from across the country, and come away with fresh ideas and different perspectives. This participative, engaging conference will be hugely beneficial to all who attend.

About the Venue

2020 will see the conference move to a new venue, Norton House Hotel and Spa, Edinburgh. Built in 1840 and set in 55 acres of grounds, the hotel was intended as a traditional country retreat. Norton House features an award-winning restaurant and all 83 individually decorated rooms provide free WiFi, free wired Internet and 24-hour room service.

The hotel is just a 20-minute drive from Edinburgh city centre and a mere 10 minutes away from Edinburgh Airport.

Contact Information

If you have any queries, please contact the SFHA Events at events@sfha.co.uk or telephone **0141 332 8113**.

If you have a query about the conference programme, please contact Karen Devin at kdevin@sfha.co.uk or telephone **0141 567 6086**.

Important Notice

This programme is correct at the time of writing. We reserve the right to make alterations or substitutions if necessary. All timings may be subject to change. Views expressed by speakers at the event or in documents or notes provided are their own and may not necessarily be the views of SFHA.

GDPR And Your Privacy

SFHA has an updated privacy policy to ensure it meets GDPR standards. You can view it at www.sfha.co.uk/privacy-policy.

Notice Of Filming

Throughout the conference there may be photography and the photos will be used for SFHA promotion and publicity and on social media. By your attendance at the conference, you acknowledge that you have been informed that you may be photographed or asked for comment as part of the release in promotional material. If you do not wish to be photographed as part of this event, you should inform SFHA staff immediately. Thank you for your cooperation.



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Chairs' Conference 2020

Book now

How to book

Book your place at the conference online now. Places at the conference are being offered on the basis below. All prices quoted are per person and are zero VAT-rated. If your organisation wishes to book a twin room for two delegates, then please contact the SFHA Events Team events@sfha.co.uk or telephone **0141 332 8113**.

Residential Delegate

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| SFHA members | £460 |
|---------------------|-------------|

| | |
|-------------|------|
| Non-members | £710 |
|-------------|------|

- Conference attendance on both days
- Tea/coffee at programmed breaks
- Lunch on both days
- Drinks reception and dinner on Friday evening
- Bed and breakfast accommodation on Friday (sole occupancy)

Day Delegate

Friday 31 January

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| SFHA members | £199 |
|---------------------|-------------|

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|-------------|------|
| Non-members | £319 |
|-------------|------|

Saturday 1 February

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| SFHA members | £195 |
|---------------------|-------------|

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|-------------|------|
| Non-members | £315 |
|-------------|------|

- Conference attendance on chosen day(s)
- Lunch and tea/coffees on chosen day(s)

Courtesy Coach

A courtesy coach for this event will be provided from Glasgow City Centre to the venue on Friday 31 January in time for registration and return to Glasgow on Saturday 1 February following the close of the event. Transport is not available outside these times. To book a place on the courtesy coach, please email events@sfha.co.uk or telephone **0141 332 8113**.

Tell Us What You Need

Please remember to tell us about anything that you think may help us to ensure your time at the conference is as trouble free as possible. This should include any specific dietary, mobility or access requirements you may have.

Please note that rooms which are fully wheelchair accessible are limited. Therefore if you have a health or mobility issue which means you require a fully accessible room then you must inform us at the time of booking in order to ensure that suitable arrangements are made. In the unlikely event that the hotel will not be able to offer you a suitable room, we may be unable to accept your booking.

All other requests such as ground floor/ near lift, will be passed onto the hotel.



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Chairs' Conference 2020

Programme Day One

Friday 31 January 2020

11.30 Registration and Tea/Coffee

12:00 Lunch

13:00 Conference Welcome and Survey

*Sally Thomas, SFHA Chief Executive
and Gerry O'Sullivan SFHA Chair*

**13:15 New Regulatory Framework –
lessons learned so far**

*Alan Stokes, SFHA and George Walker, Scottish
Housing Regulator*

George Walker, SHR Chair, will talk to delegates about SHR's regulatory priorities and reflect on the first year of the new regulatory framework.

14.30 Tea and Coffee

14.45 Succession Planning

Nigel Fortnum, Aspen People

Organisations must continually evolve, and having in place robust succession planning arrangements for both staff and board is an essential part of this. In this session, we will look at senior staff recruitment in particular and hear examples of approaches from within the sector.

15.45 Tea and Coffee

16.00 Housing to 2040

Alex Close, SFHA

In July 2019, the Scottish Government published the paper "Housing to 2040: A Conversation". This consultation seeks to set the Scottish Government vision for what homes and communities should look like in 2040. SFHA has been working with members to influence this vision, and to develop some key principles for inclusion. This session will look at the work SFHA and others have carried out to date and explore with delegates what their vision for Housing 2040 would be.

17.00 End of Sessions

19.00 Drinks Reception

19.30 Dinner

Saturday 1 February 2020

**9.00 Day Delegate Registration
and Tea/Coffee**

**9.30 Demonstrating Social Value and
Inclusive Living**

Dr Vikki McCall, University of Stirling

As part of the SFHA Innovation and Future Thinking programme, SFHA's Inclusive Living team, led by the University of Stirling, is producing a definition of inclusive living and a practical tool to help our members to design great places and services for everyone. This session will outline SFHA's work in this area to date, and explore how to demonstrate the social value of our sector's work.

10.30 Tea and Coffee



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Chairs' Conference 2020

Programme Day Two

10.45 Workshops

1A Technology Enabled Care

Geraldine Begg

Building on the success of TEC Ready, the Scottish Government, in partnership with SFHA, launched a follow-on 2 year TEC in Housing (TECH) programme in Sept 2019. The programme will provide practical support to housing organisations in the use of technology to support their tenants' wellbeing, independence and ultimately tenancy sustainment. This session will share developments from the growing TECH community, explain the TECH Charter and highlight how your organisation and tenants can benefit from getting involved.

1B Freedom of Information

Eileen Barr, TC Young

Freedom of Information was officially extended to RSLs on 11 November 2019. SFHA has made available a free helpline to members provided by TC Young Solicitors in order to assist in meeting the requirements. This session will explore frequently asked questions

and how organisations are finding the new requirements in practice.

1C How to be a good Chair

Karen Anderson, Indigo House Group

Having in place an effective Chair is essential for any organisation, but what does this look like? This session will explore the skills that Chairs require and provide helpful tips to delegates.

1D Why become a governing body member or a Chair?

Steven Webster, Board Member, Bridgewater Housing Association

Our sector asks a lot of governing body members, but it is important to highlight that there are countless benefits to undertaking the role. This session will focus on examples from within the sector, looking at how to promote the attractiveness of the role to potential governing body members, the professional development that the role provides and the increasing trend of housing association staff joining the board of another RSL.

12.00 Workshops repeated as above

13.00 Lunch

13.45 Can Governance and Regulation Stifle Innovation?

Bryony Willet and Roger Popplewell, Maryhill Housing Association

Our sector is subject to regulation from several different bodies, and every organisation must have in place robust governance arrangements. Whilst this is a crucial aspect of our sector, is there a danger that this could stifle innovation? This session will highlight examples from within the sector of where organisations have been able to innovate effectively and the benefits that demonstrable benefits that this has yielded.

14.45 Conference Close

