

**Marina Banner - Executive Director - Vestia & Corporate Services**

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Councillor Marcus Hart  
Leader of the Wyre Forest District Council  
Wyre Forest District Council  
Wyre Forest House  
FinePoint Way  
Kidderminster  
Worcestershire  
DY11 7WF

Dear Councillor Hart

On behalf of the Tenant Services Committee/Central Tenants Forum, thank you for inviting me to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> April to present our proposals for the future appointment of Tenant Board/Committee Members.

We have worked extremely hard to develop and put forward an involvement structure and succession plan that meets the requirements of 'co-regulation between the regulator, the landlord (The Community Housing Group) and tenants. Our proposals are based very clearly on our own experiences as involved tenants, what we have seen in speaking with other tenants in different organisations and in working with an independent tenant advisor over the last two years. A considerable amount of debate and thought has gone into developing a series of recommendations to TCHG and we have been pleased with their willingness to change and to accept our ideas.

In attending the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, our understanding was that our proposals to consult all tenants on the preferred method of filling Tenant positions within the Company Board/Committee structure were for consideration by the Committee. We had not been expecting a vote to be taken by members on whether our proposals were acceptable or not. This was not made clear prior to the meeting and we feel that under the circumstances this was both inappropriate and unnecessary.

We are extremely disappointed with the outcome of the meeting, the manner in which it was conducted and the opposition shown towards tenants plans for the future.

We appreciate the role of District Council's in scrutinising publically funded housing but believe that should be at a higher level than determining how tenants should be involved with their landlords and feel this decision should primarily lie with the tenants and the landlord.

Continued

We are keen to make progress but are concerned that continued uncertainty regarding the process of tenant representation at Board/Committee level is diverting us from our core purpose of involving tenants, working with TCHG to review, monitor and shape landlord services, ensuring value for money, high levels of satisfaction and good communication between landlord and tenants

I welcome your views on this matter and recommendations on how we can work together to resolve it in the best interests of all parties concerned.

Under the current agreement we are due to commence this year's elections in June and therefore it's important that this matter is resolved before this date

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Roberts', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Mr Phil Roberts

**Chairman  
Tenant Services Committee/Central Tenants Forum**