# Tenant involvement in Stock Transfers 12 December 2013

Paul McNeill CA Director HRC LTD



## **Housing Transfers**





### **Before and After**





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### How did I end up like this?



- 25 appraisals for Scottish Homes
   Lead Consultant
   Private Finance
   Stock condition survey
   Negotiated with Seller
   Best Deal for Purchaser
   Ultimately means best deal for Tenants

   72 Lead Consultants for Scottish Council/ Scottish
- Homes Transfers

  28 Second Stage Transfers- Lead Consultant
- Second Stage Fransfers- Lead C
   GHA
   15 Independent Tenant Advisors
   Panel of ITAs
   Sunderland Council
   Highland Council



## **Housing Transfers**





**SHRC** 

## **Housing Transfers**







### **Housing Transfers**



- Rents double
- House will be demolished
- All staff redundant
- Local offices close
- Repairs take longer
- Lose all your rights
- Evictions



### **Housing Transfers**







### **Housing Transfers**



- Have been successful in delivering transfer promises.
- Ballot commitments outperformed by transfer HAs have greatly outnumbered pledges delayed or unmet.
- Transfer HAs have typically implemented housing stock upgrades to standards appreciably higher than those officially prescribed
- Transfers have stimulated tenants' involvement in organisational decision-making, at both collective and individual level.
- Transfer HAs are more inclusive and more customerfocused corporate ethos than existed in former council housing departments.
- Most transfer HAs have become involved in neighbourhood regeneration – including social and economic renewal. Most have developed community facilities and contributed to community services beyond



### Research into Scottish Homes Transfers

- succeeded in attracting private finance and contributed to instilling in the housing association sector a more business-oriented corporate culture.
- The transfers have raised housing quality standards and provided additional housing investment.
- Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) associations have met or even improved on expected performance in their business plans.
- Increased tenant involvement at management committee level has created platforms for community empowerment and expansion of expertise into wider community activities
- Wider action roles and community activities have increased.



# **Scottish Homes Transfers Opportunities and Benefits**

- Increased tenant involvement in management
- Increased investment
- Increased repairs
- Enhanced local services and control
- Greater certainty for the future
- A greater variety of landlord



### Scottish Homes Transfers Key Principles

- Tenant Involvement
- Value for money
  - £ receipts
- Competition
- Level of service
- Opportunities for staff
- Homes retained for social renting



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### **Extending Community Ownership** and Management

- A shared aim of the transfer process is to promote community empowerment and control
   Choices will be available to tenants in exercising greater devolved management and opportunities for community
- ownership
  From the outset, tenants will be offered advice
  and assistance about taking ownership at a more local level

Framework Document for Second Stage **Transfer in Glasgow** 

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### **Tenant Consultation**





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### **Tenant Consultation**



- Starting Point
  - Social survey
  - Who are our customers?
  - What do they think of
    - Their house
    - Their cupboard spaces Their backcourt

    - Local area
    - Housing service
    - What would they like to change



#### **Tenant Consultation**



Should your house be demolished?
Would you like central heating?
A new roof?
A new bathroom?
A new kitchen?
Environmental improvements?

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### **Tenant Consultation**



**Highland Council** 

Inflation only years 1 to 5
Inflation + 0.5% years 6 to 10
Inflation + 1% years 11 to 30
Stirling Council
Inflation + 1% years 1 to 30
Scottish Homes
Inflation + 1% years 1 to 30
GHA
Inflation only years 1 to 5
Inflation + 1% years 6 to 8 (transferring tenants only)

**SHRC** 

### **Tenant Consultation**



- Focus Groups
- Newsletters
- Drop in surgeries
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Internet
- ITA
- Ballots
- Properly funded



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