



## Articles:

- Lord Falconer to address ALMO Board Members Conference Dinner on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2002
- Announcement on Round two Pre-allocations
- Dealing with staffing issues - good practice
- Governance Issues –Audit Commission Paper
- Update on the E- Community
- Upcoming meetings

## ALMO Board Members Conference 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> July 2002

Lord Falconer the Minister for Housing Planning and Regeneration will address the evening dinner at the first ALMO Board Members conference. The conference being organised by the CHTF is taking place in Manchester on Friday evening of the 12<sup>th</sup> July and all day Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

This conference will bring together Board Members from across the country to

- Celebrate their success
- Discuss issues of common purpose
- Make contacts and build networks

This will be an opportunity for new and more experienced Boards to set the agenda and the direction for Arms Length Management. The event will be a mix of seminars from the Audit Commission, Housemark and specialists in company law and will include facilitated sessions around three key themes

- Remaining tenant focused
- Having vision and leadership
- Meeting statutory obligations

Booking forms will be circulated next week.

The price is £230 including accommodation, the dinner and the conference

## Round Two Announcement to be made week beginning the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2002

The standard of the applications for a pre allocation of ALMO funding in Round two has been very high and the final decision is expected to be made by the Minister Lord Falconer in the week beginning the 27<sup>th</sup> of May.

*For details and booking information call Michelle Henderson at the Northern Housing Consortium on 01915661000 or michelle.henderson@northern-consortium.org.uk*



## Dealing with staffing issues - good practice

Working with the Employers Organisation for Local Government (formerly the LGMB) the Task Force is developing some good practice on how to deal with staffing issues affected by the creation of an ALMO. Ranging from good practice in communication and involvement to dealing with the legal issues of TUPE.

The Task Force would welcome either examples of good practice or any requirements for advice of this issue Contact Joanne Drew.

Joanne.Drew@  
Dtlr.gsi.gov.uk

Subscription Services -Arms Length Management  
Organisations can subscribe to one of the following services –

Basic service

Advisory Bulletins and Employment Matters - £80.00.per annum

Comprehensive Service

Advisory Bulletin and Employment Matters, plus telephone/email advisory service - £344.00 per annum (including VAT)

The Employers Organisation can be contacted on 0207 2966781

## Audit Commission Paper on ALMO Inspections

The above discussion paper, which will include the proposed inspection of governance arrangements, will be released early next week.

Mike.owen@dtlr.g  
si.gov.uk

A meeting is being arranged for round one and two ALMOs to discuss the paper and raise any issues with Roger Jarman of the Housing Inspectorate.

If you would like to discuss the paper or attend the meeting contact Mike Owen.

Due to the size of the group, the meeting will be restricted to one delegate per ALMO in management and one delegate from the local authority. For ALMOs and councils not in management only one delegate to represent both organisations.



## Update on the Decent Homes E-Community

The e-community will be demonstrated at the DTLR stand at the Chartered Institute of Housing Conference in Harrogate and all councils will shortly have their password.

The e-community will include a wide range of ALMO information for example:

- Links to main DTLR web site and the related guidance
- Template documents
- Round one and two applications Section 27 applications
- Delivery Plans

All ALMOs will be contacted about using the site and in particular the discussion forums. And they will be encouraged to contribute reports and documents to the information section

*Karen Gunning is leading for the Task Force and can be contacted on karen.gunning@dtlr.gsi.gov.uk*

## Upcoming Meetings

### Housemark ALMO Benchmarking Club

Following the last Task Force e-zine Housemark have been contacted by a number of councils keen to establish the benchmarking club. Therefore the first meeting has been arranged at 10.00am on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 2002 at Eland House Bressenden Place London in room 3ABC on the third floor.

Any body wishing to attend should contact Paul Edwards at Housemark on 024 76460500 in advance of the meeting.

