

Homes for All Organising meeting 27th October 2018

Action points

1. We noted reports from Haringey, Horsham, Islington, Southwark, Walthamstow and Wandsworth. These include problems with the London so-called 'Affordable' rent, evictions of private tenants, housing associations, redevelopment plans, land banking and cladding and fire safety in tower blocks.
Action: Paul B to draft an information sheet, on the Mayor of London's council housing and 'London Rent' policies.
2. **Planning for 3rd November 2018 demonstration between 12 -2 outside County Hall.**
This focuses on the campaign for 'No Demolitions without Permission' (i.e. a vote before any demolition plans can be agreed). Some 82 estates are threatened in London alone.
Action: Leaflets for the December summit to be circulated at this event, also the petition (Truss and Tanya). Fred and Peter to contact GLA members to encourage them to attend.
3. **Anti-racist demonstration on November 17th 2018**
Actions: to encourage groups to bring their own banners, and to march with Homes for All, as a housing contingent
Glyn agreed to write a leaflet challenging racist attempts to use the housing crisis to bring divisions.
4. **The December Summit**

We have contacted range of organisations including Acorn, Generation Rent, Renters' Union, Shelter and Tower Blocks UK, and offices of Jeremy Corbyn and John McDonnell. Other suggestions included inviting activists from Ireland and from the National Pensioners' Convention, NUS, UNITE, Unison and GMB; John Healey MP and others.

Action: we should encourage organisations to add their names as supporters (including adding their names to the publicity which would indicate the range and breadth of support).

4.2 Workshops planned on the following:

- fire and safety issues (extend over 2 workshop sessions)
- private renting
- housing associations (and possibly also co-ops, Community Land Trusts, Cohousing?)
- universal credit and arrears
- guide to tenants' rights on repairs and maintenance issues and
- sharing examples of effective actions/ campaigns
- Invest in council housing now

Workshops are being planned to contain activists and trade unionists as well as those with particular expertise, as and when needed.

We will hold a separate, maybe half day, event on mental and physical health and housing to be put, as a proposal, for early 2019.

Action: (Eileen is working on these suggestions).

4.3. Publicity

Actions agreed:

Jacob at Generation Rent to be contacted to see if we might have access to their publicity contacts (who would do this?) Carol agreed to help with following up these contacts, plus following up contacts from Homes for All's previous events.

Everyone on Facebook to circulate their contacts re a Facebook event (and a new email to be drafted for circulation).

A new leaflet to be drafted, including the names of supporting organisations such as SHAC, Southwark Tenants, Tower Blocks UK. Laurie to check on whether we can include SERTUC. The leaflet could include a reference to the fact that many organisations' funding may be running out, after years of austerity and cuts. So everyone should participate in the summit, before it gets any harder to organise.

5. AOB

On 5th December 2018 there will be a demonstration outside a Housing Awards Dinner. The counter event will be giving out alternative 'awards' (e.g. for worst landlords)

Action: All encouraged to attend.

6. Date of next meeting 10th November 2018 – venue to be confirmed, chair Truss.