



CONSTITUTION OF Easterhouse Housing and Regeneration Alliance 2018 Review

Name and Objectives

1. The name of the organisation shall be Easterhouse Housing and Regeneration Alliance. (EHRA)
2. The objective of the Alliance shall be:
 - a) To provide for the joint discussion and the evaluation of all matters affecting community based, owned and controlled housing and regeneration issues in Greater Easterhouse.
 - b) On behalf of its members, to represent, negotiate and lobby national government, local authorities and other local and national agencies where appropriate on matters of common concern
 - c) To provide a forum for partnership working in Greater Easterhouse for the community based and community controlled members.
 - d) To promote joint working to develop joint training, sharing information, joint procurement and to improve value for money for members while protecting the autonomy of individual members.
 - e) To provide and share advice, guidance, information and assistance to members on matters of common interest and concern relating to housing and regeneration.
 - f) To work with our partners to offer a range of services in the Greater Easterhouse communities.

3. Membership

- a) Membership shall be open to any Community Based owned and controlled Housing Association, Co-operative operating within the Greater Easterhouse area. Full members shall pay an annual subscription fee.
- b) Application for membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Alliance. Affiliate membership is by invitation only. Admission to membership shall be subject to the decision of the Alliance at a General Meeting.
- c) A member shall cease to be a member of the Alliance if: -
 - i) it resigns from membership; or
 - ii) it is dissolved; or
 - iii) it is expelled by resolution of a general meeting of the Alliance
 - iv) Fails to uphold the aims of the Alliance Charter
 - v) Acts against the interest of another member and point iii) above is enforced.

4. Remit

- a) Meet on a regular basis to receive and review information relevant to the Alliance
- b) Campaign and lobby for housing and regeneration within Greater Easterhouse
- c) Receive information on housing management, property management, wider role senior officers, office bearers and affiliate groups on a quarterly basis.
- d) Provide support for committee members and organisations of the Alliance
- e) Organise a joint annual training programme
- f) Develop opportunities for joint procurement in development, maintenance, employment, wider action and regeneration.
- g) Develop PR strategy
- h) Share good practice and exchange information
- i) Work in partnership to maintain and develop community regeneration initiatives
- j) Develop and submit joint applications for funding regeneration initiatives.

5. Office Bearers

The Office Bearers of the Alliance shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and such other Office Bearers as are deemed necessary for the proper conduct of the Alliance and shall be drawn from members of EHRA. The Chairperson can be re-elected but must not normally hold office continuously for more than five annual general meetings.
There is no requirement to rotate the role of Treasurer.
All office bearer positions will be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

6. General Meetings

- a) The Alliance shall hold General Meetings as appropriate.
- b) The Alliance shall hold an Annual General Meeting in the month of September. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to elect the Office Bearers, receive the Annual Report and Accounts and to consider any resolution proposed by a member organisation and submitted to the Alliance Secretary for inclusion in the Agenda of the meeting.

Constitutional amendments will be decided at Special General Meetings of the Alliance. These can be convened by any full member of the Alliance and must be attended by 4 voting representatives to allow amendments to be approved.

- c) The notice calling a General Meeting shall be circulated to full Member Organisations by the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting.
- d) General Meetings shall be open to any full member of the Committee or Staff of member organisations.
- e) Quarterly accounts shall be presented to the General Meetings.
- f) Affiliate members/partner organisations and staff forums shall be invited to the Annual General meeting as appropriate.

7. Appointment of Representatives

Each member organisation shall be entitled to nominate two representatives to the Alliance. Such representatives shall be members of the Alliance, be entitled to attend the General Meetings, to take part in discussion and to act as a communication link between the Alliance and its constituent organisations. Only committee members of Member Organisations shall be entitled to act as representative to the Alliance. Senior officers shall be affiliate members of the Alliance, with no voting rights.

More than two can attend meeting but only one member will have voting rights. All organisations will have one vote.

Senior officers should normally attend EHRA meetings or if they are unable to attend a deputy should attend where possible. .

EHRA staff can attend EHRA meetings as part of on-going development and this should be promoted

8. Authorised Signatories

Authorised signatories shall be the Chairperson and the Treasurer of the Alliance. Any payments over £750 must be approved at a full meeting of the Alliance. It was agreed that one staff member would be an authorised signatory and could approve relevant expenditure with an EHRA authorised committee member.

9. Voting

- a) Full members of Alliance shall be entitled to cast one vote at General Meetings. Any motion not receiving a majority of the votes cast at a General Meeting shall be deemed to have fallen.
- b) Each member shall designate one of its representatives as its voting representative. In the absence of the voting representative the member organisation's vote may be cast by the second named representative or a temporary representative nominate by the member organisation. Voting representatives shall be confirmed on an annual basis prior to the Annual General Meeting.

10. Quorum

No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for Annual General Meetings shall be 4 members. For all other Alliance meetings, the quorate shall be 3 Committee members.

11. Attendance at Meetings

Each organisation agrees to attend 80% of EHRA meetings. A register of attendance will be produced by the Secretary and reviewed on a six monthly basis.

12. Sub-Committees/Working Groups

The Alliance shall have the right to appoint such Sub-Committees and/or Working Parties as it may from time to time deem necessary and to determine their terms of reference and to decide on any report submitted by them. Quorum for these meetings shall be 3 members.

13. Rights of Member Organisations

Nothing that the Alliance does shall be held to infringe or constrain any of the rights of each independent member. Each member shall remain an autonomous and independent organisation.

No one member shall act in a way to jeopardise the work and autonomy of another member.

14. Support

The Alliance shall be provided with the necessary levels of administrative support by member organisations to allow distribution of Notice of Meetings, Minutes, Reports and other Publications.

15. Leave of Absence

An organisation can be granted a leave of absence for specific reasons but this should be reviewed after three months

16. Subscription

An Annual subscription fee is liable and due by each member in September and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

17. Equalities

The Alliance will operate in accordance with equalities legislation and best practice.

18. Review of Constitution

This constitution will be reviewed every three years by the members of the Alliance, or sooner should circumstances necessitate this.

Next Review: 2021 (unless change in legislation, regulatory guidance, best practice)