

NHF Smaller Associations National Group

Dear Colleague,

I am Chair of the NHF's National Group of Smaller Associations which aims to represent you and your views. Members of the Group are representatives of the NHF regional groups.

We feel that it is important that the voice of smaller associations is heard but we need to know from you, what you think is important for us to focus on at our quarterly meetings.

The Smaller Associations' Annual Conference provides us with the opportunity to reach a greater number of you and to find out your views. We have therefore developed a short survey that is intended to help us understand how best we can support and co-ordinate the activities of your associations nationally.

I should be grateful if you could take 5 minutes to let us have your views by completing the form available at the conference or if you prefer, you can complete the survey on-line at www.spbm.co.uk/NHF

This is an anonymous survey being run on our behalf by Skills & Projects.

If you have any questions or difficulties in completing the survey, please call 0845 539 1963 or e-mail info@skillsprojects.co.uk

Mandy Elliott

Chair

NHF Smaller Associations National Group

November 2013

General

1 What do you feel is the best way for you to make your views known and influence the NHF's campaigning work?

Please select only one answer

- Direct to NHF staff
- Through a regional forum
- Through the NHF Smaller Associations National Group

2 Were you aware that there is a NHF Smaller Associations National Group?

- Yes No

3 The group is considering three focus areas. Please indicate by ticking the boxes whether you agree that each is a priority. Please use the 'Other' option if there are any other areas you feel the group should focus on.

Tick as many as appropriate

- Collaboration and partnership working
- Performance improvement
- Development and growth
- Other: please specify →

Collaboration and partnership working

4 Do you think the performance of your organisation would be improved through greater collaborative working with other housing associations?

Yes No

5 If 'yes' who would you like to collaborate with?

Please select as many as apply

- Similar sized housing associations
- Larger housing associations
- Anyone as long as it helps us to learn and improve what we do
- Other: please specify →

6 Would your association consider buying services from another housing association?

Yes No

7 Would your association consider providing services on behalf of another housing association?

Yes No

8 Would your organisation benefit from a peer support network?

Yes No

9 Is your organisation engaged in partnership working in any of the following areas?

Please select as many as apply

- Housing development
- Health
- Neighbourhood / community development
- Education / training
- Other: please specify →

10 Who do you see as your main local partners?

Please select as many as apply

- Local authorities
- Health commissioners / providers
- Charities and other voluntary bodies
- Others: please specify →

11 Would you be willing to showcase any partnership working / successes at events or in publications by the NHF / Smaller Associations National Group?

Performance improvement

12 Does your organisation belong to a benchmarking club?

- Yes - SPBM Yes - Other No

13 If 'No' is it something you would consider?

- Yes No Not sure N/A

14 Are you interested in working with other smaller HAs to collectively commission any of the following additional services?

Please select as many as apply

- Responding to regulatory requirements and compliance issues
 Customer services
 Back office services
 Organisational development services
 Training & development (staff, tenants and / or Board members)
 Good practice research / publication
 Other: please specify →

Development

15 Does your organisation see growth (i.e. an increase in the number of new homes it owns and / or manages whatever the tenure) as part of its mission?

- Yes No Not sure

16 Do you see involvement in the development of new homes as critical to your organisation's future success?

- Yes No

17 Please identify which of the following best describes your organisation?

Please select as one only

- Developing new homes - independently
 Developing new homes – in partnership with others
 Developing new homes – independently and in partnership
 Not developing – but aspire to
 Not developing

Development continued

18 How can the NHF Smaller Associations National Group best help your organisation in respect of development?

Please select as many as apply

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to grant / funding | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking and sharing experience |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to advice and expertise | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to professional services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to training and development | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: please specify → <input type="text"/> | |

Further information

19 Do you have any further comments on the role of the NHF Smaller Associations National Group?

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey.

Please return the questionnaire in the envelope provided, or send it to the Freepost address below.

Skills & Projects will collate the responses and report the findings to the NHF Smaller Associations National Group.

A summary of the findings will be made available by the Group.

Freepost Plus RSBK-YSLG-UJAK
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