

## Board Update

### June 2010.

V2C's board met on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June at the Bryncethin offices.

#### Community Support Fund

Matthew Palmer (Community Development Officer) gave a presentation to the Board on V2C's Community Support Fund. There is currently an annual budget of nearly £40,000 to assist with projects or activities in communities where V2C has homes, and funding is in the form of a grant. Details of how to apply and the type of projects funded can be found on the Communities section of the V2C website.

#### Welsh Assembly Government funded Energy Efficiency Programme

Andrew Smith (Head of Assets & Procurement) updated the Board on progress with implementing the energy efficiency works using the £2.5m funding secured from WAG's *arbed* scheme. The precise details of what works would be covered by WAG, and more importantly those that wouldn't be, were discussed.

The Board agreed that within the three estates identified in the *arbed* bid, all of the tenanted properties should be able to benefit from solar electricity generation regardless of WAG eligibility and therefore approved the use of V2C capital funding to make this possible. This investment would be repaid in the long-term by using the new 25 year Feed In Tariffs introduced by the Government in April.

#### Self Assessment

Stephen Cook (Chief Executive) presented the Board with a first draft of V2C's Self Assessment; primarily to agree the format rather than the content at this stage. (As part of the new regulatory requirements every housing association in Wales has to carry out a self assessment each year and share this with WAG's Regulation Team.)

The approach of producing a concise document that commented on the extent to which the organisation met each of the *performance standards* set by WAG was approved and it was agreed that the next draft of the Self Assessment would be shared with tenants' groups and other stakeholders as part of obtaining external feedback on our performance.

## **Corporate Services Update**

Claire Murphy (Head of Corporate Services) presented an activity report for the year 2009/10 relating to the work of her section.

During the year nine recruitment exercises were carried out and 97 training courses were organised for staff: ranging from gas safety to tenant participation.

Sickness absence during the year was 5.12% (above our target of 4%) but 66 colleagues (30% of the workforce) had had no absence from work, (an increase for the third year in a row).

Staying on a positive note, Claire also advised the Board that V2C had been awarded the bronze *Payroll Giving Certificate* from the Charities Trust to recognise the commitment to promoting charitable, tax free giving amongst staff. Another award would also be made to V2C by the Education Business Partnership in Mid Glamorgan in recognition of our work with schools in providing mock interview experience for students.

## **Approvals**

The Board approved applications from 11 tenants to become Share Members following the recent Board Workshops. The Use of the Seal was also approved in respect of the purchase of some land and a number of formalities connected with Right to Buy sales.

## **Items for Information**

The Board received a draft copy of the revised smoking policy for information, and this will be presented to the July Board Meeting for approval once all consultation has been concluded. The proposed changes will prohibit smoking at all of the association's office/depot premises, including the external car parks and access areas.

**The meeting lasted approximately 2 ½ hours and finished at 8.30pm.**