

*AfCE Case Study 1*

**Tenant Participation Workout - Accredited Training for Best Value in Housing**

The Project was built on work carried out by AfCE's Principal Consultant around accredited training programmes used in the development of Tenant Management Organisations as way of benchmarking tenant participation.

The newly developed training material produced a tenant competencies framework and this framework is the starting point for establishing a programme which is relevant to tenant participation within the Best Value Regime.

An exploration was made of what tenants need to know and be able to do in order to engage in the Best Value process with their landlord. To establish this it was necessary for a number of meetings and workshops to be held with the three Project Partners - Derby Association of Community Partners, Derby Homes and the Learning and Development Consortium.

A pilot course, funded under the Innovation into Action programme, was completed in 2005 and the project was evaluated in 2006. AfCE now plans to provide this course for other regions of the country.

*AfCE Case Study 2*

**Basegreen & District Tenant Management Organisation - Feasibility Study**

Basegreen and District TARA covers some 1,276 Council owned homes situated in the Southern half of Sheffield and AfCE was commissioned by the Tenants and Residents Association Steering Group to undertake a Feasibility Study during the period 2005-2006.

Communications played an important role throughout the Study by keeping the rest of the estate community informed of the issues and regularly sampling wider opinion. The Steering Group maintained its drive and enthusiasm throughout the duration of the Study and kept the rest of the estate community well informed through regular, colourful newsletters to every home.

The City Council supported the Study throughout its life by regularly attending monthly liaison meetings and offering constructive comments and information.

The increasing use of the internet was recognised by the Steering Group who established their own dedicated web site and undertook training to keep it fresh and up to date.

A key component of the information giving plan was the production and distribution of a DVD to every home in the lead up to the estate ballot at the end of the Study. The DVD laid out clearly what the issues were and how the ballot would be conducted.

The result of the ballot was a resounding 79.7% voting YES – we agree that you carry on into the Development Stage.

This community endorsement of tenant empowerment in action is a tribute to the tenacity of the local people involved and the courage of the City Council in backing them.

### *AfCE Case Study 3*

#### **City Centre Community Participation Research Project**

AfCE Ltd was commissioned by Sheffield City Council to devise a training programme and new materials and approaches to enable local people to conduct their own research and evaluate the regeneration measures taken within the City Centre Community.

A Sheffield City Centre Community Panel was formed and undertook training in 2003 to work out the methods and questions for themselves with some professional help from AfCE.

The Panel learned how to:

- Draw up questionnaires
- Conduct interviews
- Run focus groups
- Gather in information
- Design and run a computer analysis
- Produce a clear report

This enabled the local people involved to undertake the evaluation and control the way it was carried out and how the information was used.

The work resulted in the local people designing and carrying out their own evaluation and the publication of a report - "City Centre Residents Involvement in the Regeneration of Sheffield."