

Local Scrutiny Panels

Requirements for members

Please note:

If you're a member of the household in one of our permanent rented properties then you'll be eligible to apply providing you meet the other criteria specified in this document.

If you live in one of leasehold properties, you must be named on the lease in order to be eligible to apply.

Within each local scrutiny panel (LSP), members need to be able to work together in assessing and scrutinising the performance of NHH in their area of responsibility.

All panel members will receive induction training. There is however an expectation that the residents selected to be a panel member will bring certain skills and personal qualities to the panel on which they sit.

This document sets out the expectations for each panel member and will be used to assist the selection of panel members throughout the interview process.

Skills

It is essential you have the following:

- An enquiring mind
- A willingness to learn about the local area
- A willingness to learn about the needs of residents of NHH in the local area
- An understanding of confidentiality and how it will apply within the panel
- An ability to listen to a variety of views and information and reach a reasonable conclusion
- A willingness to analyse and interpret the information provided to panel members
- An ability to question information
- A willingness to build up skills to be able to challenge and scrutinise information
- An ability to use own experience in an objective way to be effective as a panel member

It would be great if you have the following skills but it is **not** essential:

- Knowledge of the area covered by the panel
- An understanding of the needs of the residents of NHH in the area covered by the panel
- An ability to analyse and interpret information

Local Scrutiny Panels

Personal qualities

The qualities below show the type of person we are looking for to join the panels:

- Good interpersonal skills
- An ability to work constructively and cooperatively with fellow panel members, NHH staff and where applicable local agencies and representatives such as MPs or councillors
- A willingness to prepare for meetings including reading papers. Please note that if you have additional support needs the Resident Involvement Team is happy to provide assistance by, for example, translating papers or providing them in Braille or PDF versions.
- A willingness to attend at least three out of four meetings a year
- A commitment to treating everyone as equals appreciating and respecting everyone's differences as well as similarities
- Being open to undertake training to meet any gaps in knowledge, understanding or skills which prevent panel members from being effective.

Eligibility

The nature of the panels and the work you will do means that there may be certain circumstances where it is not suitable for a resident to become a member or continue as a member if circumstances change.

If the following applies to you then you will not be considered for a place on a panel and should therefore not apply:

- If you are currently engaged in legal proceedings with NHH (by NHH for breaches of tenancy or lease).
- If at the time of applying, you are in eight weeks or more of arrears and have made no agreement to pay towards reducing them.
- If you have not abided by the terms of a court order, for arrears.
- If you have been served with a Notice of Seeking Possession in regards to anti-social behaviour by yourself, visitors to or members of your household.
- If you are under any type of communications contract with NHH.
- If you are banned from visiting the premises of NHH

If the following circumstances arise during your time as a LSP member then the Chair will discuss whether your position is compromised and you may be asked to stand down:

- If you become engaged in legal proceedings with NHH.
(by NHH for breaches of tenancy or lease).
- If you become eight weeks or more of arrears and have made no agreement to pay towards reducing them.
- If you have not abided by the terms of a court order, for arrears.
- If you have been served with a Notice of Seeking Possession in regards to anti-social behaviour by yourself, visitors to or members of your household.

Local Scrutiny Panels

- If you are banned from visiting the premises of NHH.
- If you breach the terms of the LSP working agreement.

If you're not clear whether your particular circumstances restrict you from applying or if you have any queries about any aspect of the requirement for members then please contact the Resident Involvement Team on 020 3815 0010 or email localscrutiny@nhhg.org.uk.