



*Scotland's Participation Experts*



## Tenant Participation Advisory Service Scotland (TPAS)

### **Why are you getting information from TPAS?**

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We have been appointed Independent Tenant Advisors (ITA) to Weslo tenants in the proposals to transfer Weslo homes to the Link Group.

We provide factual impartial information to all Weslo Tenants on the proposed transfer.

We are providing Weslo Property Management private tenants with this bulletin to keep you up to date.

Weslo wants to hear your views about your future services. You can feed in your views to Weslo directly at [weslofuture@weslohm.co.uk](mailto:weslofuture@weslohm.co.uk)

### **Why did Weslo seek a partner?**

Weslo wishes to provide all its tenants with good quality homes and services now and in the future.

The Scottish Housing Regulator (The SHR is the independent regulator for social landlords in Scotland) criticised Weslo for lack of a planned programme of investment for its social rented housing.

The Weslo Board appointed independent consultants to investigate how best to achieve what their homes needed in the future. That investigation concluded Weslo would be best to transfer to a housing association to achieve this investment for its social rented homes while keeping rents affordable. This is not uncommon, lots of housing organisations have come together to form partnerships.

### **Who are the Link Group?**

Link Group was established in 1962. They are a robust organisation with high levels of tenant satisfaction. There are a number of landlords in the Group spread across Scotland - Horizon Housing Association, West Highland Housing Association and Link Housing Association. For more information go to <https://linkhousing.org.uk/>

## What's the process to change

There is a long process to go through before any transfer can happen. It is important to point out that this is not a done deal. All Weslo tenants' views will influence the "offer" from Link. This means tenants priorities on rent levels, repairs, maintenance and improvements will be taken into account by Link when forming their business case and "offer" to tenants.

If the Weslo Board approve the offer from Link and are satisfied it reflects tenants' priorities, there will be a secret ballot for tenants.

Only social tenants with a Scottish Secure Tenancy agreement have the right to vote in the secret ballot.

You do not have the right to a vote in the ballot.

The ballot will last for 28 days, a simple majority of tenants voting yes, means Weslo will disappear and tenants will become the tenants of Link Group.

You do have the right to ask questions and seek clarification over the process –

### If tenants vote yes

Your home will be managed by one of the Link Group companies

Your services will remain the same, or improve

In the short term you will still contact the same office and deal with the same staff, report repairs etc in the same way. Link has offices in Falkirk and Edinburgh, and in the longer term some services may be delivered from there.

The transfer should be seamless, you should not notice any difference in the levels of service you currently enjoy.

You can feed in your views to Weslo directly to [weslofuture@weslohm.co.uk](mailto:weslofuture@weslohm.co.uk)

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### You can get independent information or clarification from TPAS

- o Email: **lesley.baird@tpasscotland.org.uk**
- o By post: **TPAS, 3rd Floor,  
Erskine House,  
1 North Avenue,  
Clydebank, G81 2DR**
- o Freephone - **0800 049 5761**

If we are not able to answer your call, please leave a message we will always get back to you.