



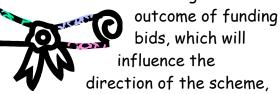
Edition 4: February 2004

Welcome Note

Welcome to the fourth edition of the London Landlord Accreditation Scheme (LLAS) Newsletter.

There has been considerable activity by members of the Steering Group, particularly those on the Training sub-group, since Edition 3.

Whilst we are still awaiting the



the all-important training element is beginning to firm up.

Steering Group

The Steering Group last met on Tuesday 3rd February. It was a lively,

well attended meeting
with everyone
contributing to the
various debates,
especially the

lengthy discussions surrounding the training options.

Information for Landlords

There are currently 53 landlords on the database for receiving the LLAS Newsletter, but the list is growing daily due to the considerable number of responses we are receiving to the 'Landlords Have Your Say' questionnaire.



These responses are helping to shape the way the scheme develops and we look forward to the increasing influence landlords will have through the Landlords' Reference Group.

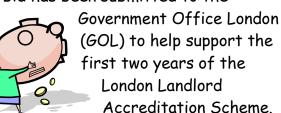
Landlords' Reference Group

This group is being set up in order to hear the views of a representative sample of practising landlords on some of the most important aspects of making the LLAS a success.

Please contact the Project Officer if you are interested in joining this Reference Group, or if you know someone else who you think would have a valuable contribution to make.

Funding

A bid has been submitted to the





It is hoped that we will receive an indication of the success or otherwise of this bid by early March, when the GOL recommendations are due to go before the Ministers.

Housing Benefit Information

The options Paper has now been forwarded to the Association of London Government (ALG) setting out three options to consider for a second funding bid.

This bid will describe how the London Landlords Accreditation Scheme could assist local authorities to improve their conformance with the housing benefits standards.

Once again, providing structured and informed training to landlords will be central to this bid, complemented by detailed information packs setting out how the housing benefit system operates and how to ensure claim delays, overpayments, etc, are minimised.

In some boroughs there may be the possibility of a streamlined 'helpline' feature for accredited landlords, but details have yet to be determined.

London Boroughs currently 'signed up' to Scheme

We have almost reached 100% signing up to the scheme, a magnificent achievement and well worth the effort involved in the difficult task of convincing each of the 33 authorities that the scheme will be a useful and important tool towards improving the private rented sector within London.

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