**Housing BootCamp**

**Background**

In 2016 CHC undertook a review of all its conferences, during which we considered; what was currently on offer from CHC, what was available to members in the open market and spoke to members to identify gaps in provision.

From this it was identified that there were staff groups within our member's organisations that not being catered for within CHC's existing conference programme. An options presentation was made to the Senior Management team at CHC and the decision taken to offer a fully inclusive programme of conferences for 2017-2018 which incorporated the groups that had been identified as underrepresented. These groups were:

- Front line staff, Housing Officers, Housing Mangers etc
- Learning and Development teams
- Young leaders (Including succession planning)

CHC wanted to ensure a high quality, value for money conference for Front line staff, Housing Officers and Housing Mangers that was informative, inspirational and encouraged entrepreneurialism.

**Conference programme**

The conference programme offers a wide range of speakers who will inspire delegates to consider:

- What will housing look like in the future?
- How the sector can offer value for money (doing more with less),
- What skills are needed to thrive in the future?
- What will be the needs of tenants and communities?
- What changes does the housing sector need to make to succeed in the future?
- What services will tenants and communities need or expect in the future?

Facilitated sessions (by Academi Wales) will then take place to discuss the points above, and the opportunities and challenges that will be faced by delegates and the organisations they work within when addressing them.

A wide range of best practice projects/models based within Housing Associations will be presenting at the conference to give delegates an understanding of the work being undertaken within the sector. Delegates can then identify which of these could be valuable to their own organisation. The best practice presentations will cover: why the project was initially developed, what it has achieved, cost savings made, community benefits, and obstacles overcome in order for the project to be successful.

Personal development sessions will be held throughout the 2 days incorporating sessions from Communication to making fear your friend.

**Business case**

1. What is the conference about?
   The main theme for the conference is future proofing the sector, ensuring that the correct skills are in place to ensure Housing Associations grow, develop and thrive in the future.

2. Who will I meet there?
   You will meet with peers, facilitators, key note speakers, private companies who work within the sector and developers of best practice projects/programmes within the sector.

3. Why is it good for me to meet and network with those people?
   To develop your own personal skills and knowledge, to have an understanding of how other organisations work, develop contact base and promote shared working throughout the sector.

4. What will I learn there?
   You will learn what you need to do to prepare for the future both personally and from an organisational perspective. You will also learn what the future of housing will look like and how you and your organisation can thrive in times of adversity.

5. How will this learning enhance what i can offer my employer?
   At the conference you will develop both personally and professionally, the learning you will receive through attending the conference is wide and varied however could include;
   - Being able to identify potential best practice projects that can benefit your employer and add value to the community benefits and financial viability of the organisation;
   - An understanding of what the future looks like and the actions that the organisation needs to take now to ensure that it is ready and prepared, and what your part to play is within this,
   - Examples of how organisations have thrived in times of adversity and ideas on how these can be implemented within your own organisation
   - Personal development that can ensure you are a more productive member of staff, whether this be around communication, mindfulness, being more proactive etc.

6. How will my employer's reputation benefit from me attending the conference?
   As this conference is new and innovative your employer will be seen as proactive in ensure all members of staff are up skilled and receive the same opportunities as others. Those who attend will be setting the standard and increasing their reputation as a forward thinking, inclusive organisation that wants to ensure all staff to play a part in its future.