

Private Landlords

Feeding back to you

Why we consulted

This consultation is aimed at landlords and agents who own or manage property in Gateshead. Gateshead Council sees the private rented sector as playing an increasingly important role in meeting the housing needs and aspirations of Gateshead's population. We have formed a strong relationship with landlords who are members of the Gateshead Private Landlord Association and are keen to seek views on the services currently provided to members and to consider how we support the private rented sector in the future.

When we consulted

4 November 2012 to 2 December 2012.

How we consulted

A survey was made available on the council's on-line consultation system and a paper copy was available on request.

We wrote to all Landlords and agents who are members of the Gateshead Private Landlords Association to make them aware of the consultation.

Feedback

Members were asked about Council services they used. Feedback was generally very positive with the majority of members indicating the services worked well, particularly the accreditation of properties.

In the main respondents indicated they did not experience any trouble in finding tenants for their properties.

When asked about housing vulnerable tenants; the respondents had a mixed view, but many indicated they would house vulnerable people should adequate support be available to them.

A significant proportion of landlords indicated they let their properties through a managing agent. When questioned about the use of the Gateshead Private Landlords Association (GPLA) website www.renting-in-gateshead.co.uk, the majority of respondents indicated that the site was either "better than most" sites or "good but could be better".

The results of the consultation will be used to inform decisions on the future service offer provided to the GPLA and will also help us further improve our understanding of the Private rented sector market in Gateshead to consider:

- How we can help find and sustain tenancies for vulnerable people; and
- How we can develop the partnership further in the future, to encourage improved conditions in the sector.

Next steps

Detailed feedback is available on the [GPLA website](#) above.

The comments will be carefully considered and where appropriate services updated with a view to improve service provision (subject to resources available).