

Campaign Bulletin - September 2024

Growing recognition of the need to tackle social housing stigma

The current UK Government has recognised the need to tackle social housing stigma, and increasingly more tenants and landlords are now understanding how important it is to address the problem.



Florence Eshalomi MP Photo: Laurie Noble

In the debate in the house on the Grenfell tragedy, the Prime Minister stated that regulations alone are not sufficient to tackle social housing stigma but that there is a need for a significant cultural change.

The Prime Minister was responding to Florence Eshalomi MP (now the Chair of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee) who raised the issue of social housing stigma, possibly for the first time in a debate in the house (SSHS are shortly to meet with

Florence). The Deputy Prime Minister went on to stress the importance of tackling social housing stigma in interviews the day after the debate.

SSHS has fed in a set of recommendations about how Government can work with SSHS and other tenants to tackle social housing stigma – available <u>here</u>.

STOP SOCIAL HOUSING STIGMA CAMPAIGN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Including a discussion on our policy asks to Government Tuesday 15th October 2024 6pm to 7pm To get the link, please register <u>here</u>

The Tackling Stigma Journey Planner



Fiona and Nic launching the Journey Planner

Developed in partnership between SSHS, the University of Durham, Sheffield Hallam University, the Chartered Institute of Housing, TPAS and YD Associates, the Tackling Stigma Journey Planner was launched to a packed session at the Housing Community Summit on the 9th September 2024 (the first session of the conference). The Journey Planner, is available here. We are now moving forward to work with a set of Pioneer Travellers to test out how the Journey

Planner works with a view to publishing a final report in Spring 2025.

ARE YOU A TENANT WHO WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOUR STORY ABOUT STIGMA?

As part of our Journey Planner, we are intending to produce a series of short films of tenants talking about how they have been stigmatised. Please get in touch with nic.bliss@phonecoop.coop if you would like to participate. Please let us know briefly something about the story you would like to tell. We are not particularly looking for amazing film stars! Just tenants who can tell it like it is!

The filming will be taking place in January 2025 in two locations, but we would provide travel costs to get there.

CALLING ALL LANDLORDS

Have you publicised STOP SOCIAL HOUSING STIGMA campaign membership to your tenants?

If not – we would be keen for you to do so!

Our membership flyer is available <u>here</u>.