

**Press Release: 20 March 2009**

**TPAS Scotland**

**Argyll Community Housing Association has become the first Housing Association in Scotland to receive a new award for tenant participation.**



**TPAS SCOTLAND  
ACCREDITED**

**TPAS Accreditation was awarded to Argyll Community Housing Association in recognition of the landlord's commitment to work closely with their tenants throughout Argyll and Bute.**

**Lesley Baird, Chief Executive of TPAS Scotland is delighted that the Argyll based landlord has been the first association to successfully achieve the award.**

**Lesley said, "We recognise that Argyll Community Housing Association is genuinely committed to both listening to their tenants and learning from their concerns."**

**Mrs Baird added, "Despite the challenge of providing services across a vast geographical area, ACHA have created opportunities for all tenants to get involved in shaping the services on offer. ACHA thoroughly deserve this award."**

**Gillian McInnes, Community Development Manager for ACHA welcomes the TPAS Accreditation award. Gillian believes the recently formed Housing Association could not have achieved this without the commitment and hard work of tenant volunteers.**

**Gillian said, "Tenants right across Argyll and Bute have devoted so much of their time and energy into helping ACHA to be a success. Quite simply, the organisation could not exist without their goodwill, support and experience."**

**Achieving TPAS Accreditation involves organisations opening their doors to independent scrutiny of how tenants are involved in influencing their housing service.**

**TPAS found that Argyll Community Housing Association were able to demonstrate an organisational commitment to tenant participation,**

**as well as a genuine desire amongst staff at all levels to listen and learn from tenants. TPAS will soon be releasing a good practice briefing note on Argyll Community Housing Association's approach to tenant participation.**



**Notes to Editor:**

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- 1) TPAS Scotland is a voluntary organisation which exists to promote & support tenant participation. TPAS provides information, advice and training on a range of housing issues. TPAS works with Tenants Associations, Councils and Housing Associations.

TPAS is managed by a board of volunteers who represent Tenants & Landlords.