

Golden Seven Frequently Asked Questions Working Document



What is the Golden Seven?

Golden Seven is a new community involvement project linking Area Housing Panels, Tenants and Residents Associations, tenants, residents and volunteers together with vulnerable groups around Rotherham, getting everyone to work together and learn from one another

Why Golden Seven?

Rotherham is divided into seven geographical areas, each supported by an Area Housing Panel. The aim is to bring together 7 projects in 7 areas to produce 7 portfolios for each area producing a 7 year sustainable project. The project is at early stages so your thoughts and views on how to shape this project are very welcome.

What are the Seven Area Housing Panels (AHP)?

The main purpose of Area Housing Panels is to contribute towards creating better neighbourhoods and communities in their defined area that reflect the wishes of tenants and residents. The seven Area Housing Panels in Rotherham are Rotherham North, Rotherham South, Rother Valley West, Rother Valley South, Wentworth Valley, Wentworth South and Wentworth North. Contact us¹ to find out which area housing panel covers your area.

What if our AHP Chooses not to be Actively involved?

This project is based on good will and volunteer effort. We cannot make

people become involved in something they do not wish to support.

What is a Tenants and Residents Association (TARA)?

TARAs are defined as “a group of people living in an area, block or street who have come together to take up issues of common concern in relation to their housing, community and general environment”. They are independent organisations run by and for local tenants and residents. Contact us¹ for information about your local TARA or help you set up a new one.

How will the Golden Seven Benefit our AHPs and TARAs?

It will help all our organisations include everyone who lives in our communities, whoever they are. This will strengthen all our organisations making them truly representative of the communities we live in.

How Can I Get Involved?

Community volunteers are at the heart of this project There are many ways for you to become involved dependent on your own skills and interest. Come along to our launch event on 17th February² or speak to us¹ about how you can get involved.

Can individuals be involved in if they are not already involved with the AHP or TARA?

Yes. This project is about involving people and we would welcome new volunteers.

How Much Commitment is Required from Individuals?

You can get involved as much as you feel able. We welcome whatever help you can give, Every little bit of

¹ Phone Rotherham Federation of Tenants and Residents (RotherFed) on 01709 368515 or email us on: goldenseven@hotmail.co.uk

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support will help make this project a better one.

What are the Seven Categories?

Through this project, communities will develop skills and experience around each of the seven categories. These are black and ethnic minority communities, disability, homelessness, young people, young families, community spaces and the elderly. Each Area Housing Panel will be presented with their golden envelope at the Golden Seven Launch Event² where the categories each area will be working on during the next year will be announced.

What if we Know Nothing about the Category We Have Been Allocated?

Don't worry. There is support from officers and others involved in the project. We are all here to help one another.

How Will the Projects be Decided?

Projects will be discussed, agreed and negotiated dependent on the support for them and funding available.

How can we Find Community Skills to Support us to Deliver Projects?

The project is about supporting and working together. We will share information to enable us to support one another with the skills we each have.

How is the Golden Seven Paid For?

The Housing Action Charity has provided some initial funding to get the Golden Seven started. None of the monies Area Housing Panels have for environmental improvements to their own local communities are being used for this new project. Instead, we are looking for further support, financial and otherwise, from other partners – volunteer help will be particularly welcome.

Where is the Funding Coming for Proposed Projects?

We will have to apply for additional funds to help make projects happen. Support of volunteers can be as valuable as money in helping get projects off the ground.

Who Do we Contact if our Named Officer is not supporting us?

This is a project about working together. There is a Golden Seven Steering Group overseeing the project where you can take your concerns.

What Do we Do if an Individual's Behaviour is Not in Keeping with the Code of Conduct?

We will not ignore bad conduct but implement our disciplinary policy. This will ensure fairness for all.³

This is a working document and we would like to add, adapt and change – your views welcome¹

² 4pm-6pm on Thursday 17th February 2011 at Springwell Gardens Community Centre

³ Many thanks to everyone who put these questions and answers together