

Dear Housing Association Chief Executive,

An invitation to join the Homes for Cathy group *'housing associations tackling homelessness'*

We are a group of housing associations gravely concerned about rising homelessness and wanting to see housing associations doing more to help homeless people.

This is our mission statement:

- We will strive to keep the issue of homelessness in the hearts and minds of housing association boards and employees, as well as our local communities and stakeholders
- We will seek to work with partners in our local areas to find long term solutions that reduce homelessness
- We will be honest with each other in sharing our successes and failures in preventing homelessness through tenancy failures
- We will publicise our commitment to ending homelessness, for example by identifying with the Homes for Cathy group through our social media platforms, including our web sites, and on development scheme boards

I attach a strategy document which gives more details of our background and what we intend to do over the next two years.

But having started as a group of associations formed in the post-'Cathy Come Home' era, we would now like to broaden our membership to include all housing associations who share our concerns about homelessness.

We are not asking for any money or subscription fee (at least not for the first year or so) but we would like you to make a public commitment to the Homes for Cathy group and sign up to our aims and objectives.

There will be quarterly meetings (usually in London) and an annual conference. We will also further develop our website: www.homesforcathy.org.uk – which is where you can find details of our recent activities and of the housing associations which have joined the Homes for Cathy group.

If you would like any further information or to discuss this invitation, please contact me by telephone or E mail.

Otherwise, I very much hope that you will want join the Homes for Cathy group and adopt our Homes for Cathy objectives and 'housing associations tackling homelessness' mission.

I look forward to hearing from you.

David Bogle
Chief Executive