



Nomination Form

Outstanding Contribution to Tenant Participation **Frances Nelson MBE**

TIS National Excellence Awards 2024

The **TIS National Excellence awards** recognise and celebrate housing organisations, staff, volunteers, tenants, residents, and community groups **who are leading the way and making positive change in the Scottish social housing sector.**

Categories honour excellence in everything **from partnership working, tenant participation and scrutiny practice, to digital creativity and innovation.** Hotly anticipated, the awards offer a seal of approval for the most outstanding work.

Finalists are selected by an expert and independent judging panel, and **winners announced at an awards ceremony on Thursday 7th November 2024 at the Grand Central Hotel in Glasgow.**

The closing date for applications is 5:00pm on Thursday 11th July 2024. TIS accepts submissions in more than one award category.

Category Overview

The **Outstanding Contribution to Tenant Participation** award recognises an inspiring, individual tenant who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to driving tenant participation practices forward to achieve great practice that others can learn from.

Submissions must evidence how **the individual has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to adding value to their local area and improving community spirit,** empowered other tenants, residents, and communities to influence housing policies, services, and standards, explored innovative new ways to get people involved, strengthened relationships and communication, and **championed tenant participation practices.**

Who you can nominate

This award is open to an individual tenant.

About you

Please note information about the individual, organisation, or group submitting the application:

Name	Max Scotto
Position	Lead Customer Engagement Officer
Organisation	Kingdom Housing Association
Email address	maxscotto@kha.scot
Telephone number	07920 765170

About the nominee

Please note information about the individual you are nominating:

Name	John Mathieson
Position	Scrutiny Panel Member and Perth Local Area Committee Member
Organisation	Kingdom Housing Association
Email address	
Telephone number	

Background

Maximum 250 words

Please outline background information about the individual that you are nominating.

For example, detail:

- The background of the individual.
- The specific role they undertake.
- When and why the individual first got involved in tenant participation.

John Mathieson joined the Board of Fairfield Housing Cooperative over 15 years ago. Although he felt it was daunting initially, he stuck to it.

Fairfield was subject to statutory intervention by the Scottish Housing Regulator in 2018 after it identified serious weaknesses in governance and financial management and failures to comply with regulatory standards.

At that time John was asked by the Scottish Housing Regulator to act as a Chairman and investigate a mismanagement of funds. He had to review evidence, interview staff and present findings to the Regulator. He found it stressful but focused on carrying out his duty for the benefit of the tenants and community.

Fairfield and Kingdom entered into a shared services agreement in 2020 with the Fife-based Housing Association providing chief executive, governance, financial, payroll and strategic asset management services.

In January 2021, following a joint strategic options appraisal, John as Chair of the Fairfield Board agreed to pursue a Transfer of Engagements with Kingdom. After the transfer, John decided it was time to step down from the Board and he joined the Perth Local Area Committee which had the remit to work collaboratively during and after the merge, making sure that Kingdom delivered the promises made to the tenants over a period of 3 years.

John also joined Kingdom Housing's Scrutiny Panel in 2023.

Actions

Maximum 500 words

Please outline specific actions of the individual that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to driving tenant participation practices forward.

For example, outline:

- How the individual has gone above and beyond in championing tenant participation practices.
- How the individual empowered other tenants, residents, and communities to influence housing policies, services, and standards.
- How the individual explored innovative new ways to get people involved.
- How the individual has championed tenant participation practices.
- The work involved and their overall aim.

John is committed to voluntary work, having taken part in different roles. He works very hard in the Perth Local Area Committee as well as taking part in many other engagement activities. He is known in the community as a caring and positive man who works for the benefit of others.

John is a full-time carer of his wife who is wheelchair bound. He is also a father and grandfather with special interest in the welfare of children and young people.

He was instrumental in the creation of a community garden in the area where he lives, he also sets a fine example to members of his community and is an exemplary neighbour.

As a newer member of the Panel, he has taken part in reviewing energy efficiency measures and solar panels. Although he does not drive, he is willing to travel on public transport and spend a lot of his time volunteering. Considering that every time he goes out, he has to make arrangements to care for his wife and dogs, his commitment is worthy of admiration.

Outcomes

Maximum 700 words

Please outline positive outcomes the individual has achieved as a result of their commitment to empowering tenants, residents, and communities.

For example, detail the impact on:

- The delivery of housing services.
- The improvement of satisfaction levels.
- Adding value to their local area and improving community spirit.
- Communication, strengthening relationships, and partnership working.
- The inclusion and lasting benefits of tenants, residents, and communities.
- The skills and knowledge of other tenants, residents, and communities.
- How others can learn from the individual's good practice now and in the future.

Since joining the Scrutiny Panel, John has undertaken one very complex scrutiny exercise. He reviewed energy efficiency measures, particularly solar panels.

This review will be presented to the Board in October 2024 and has good and specific recommendations that should help us better plan property upgrades, as well as the information given to tenants.

In his involvement with the Perth Local Area Committee, he has monitored many aspects of our delivery programme, such as property upgrades and area management.

He applied for funding and co-designed and delivered a community garden area that has benefitted many residents.

John's commitment to the improvement of housing and performance was evident during the period of the statutory intervention of Fairfield Housing Coop. and the successful transfer of engagement from Fairfield to Kingdom Housing, something which he was involved in with the utmost professionalism.

What makes this nominee stand out from the rest?

Maximum 100 words

Please provide a short testimonial on why this individual deserves to win.

John has been involved in volunteering activities for a shorter period than Peter and George, but in that time he has shown exceptional commitment, even while dealing with very complex issues that would have put many people off.

He has done all that while caring diligently for his wife, and balancing this with being a very present grandfather.

Staff members of former Fairfield Coop and Kingdom Housing Association always speak highly of John and they know that whatever he does, he will give his best and will do so positively and constructively.

In the short period he has been a Scrutiny Panel member he has gained the respect of his fellow members and become a good friend.

We all feel that his commitment to the tenants of former Fairfield and now Kingdom deserves special recognition.

Declaration

X As the proposer I have completed this nomination form to the best of my knowledge, and the information provided is a true representation of the nominee's achievements.

Name	Max Scotto
Signature	Max Scotto
Date	01/0/2024

Thank you for taking the time to complete this nomination form.

Please submit your nomination by **5:00pm on Thursday 11th July 2024** to TIS by email at: info@tis.org.uk or by post to: **TIS – Clockwise Offices, 77 Renfrew Street, Glasgow, G2 3BZ.**

Next steps

- **All applications will be acknowledged on receipt by TIS.** If you do not receive acknowledgement within 3 working days, please contact us to ensure your application has been received.
- An **independent judging panel** will rate your application against the award criteria. The panel will consist of representatives from organisations across the Scottish social rented sector.

- Your award submission will provide the basis for both the shortlist and final decision of the winning entry.
- **TIS welcomes applications in more than one award category.**
- Please ensure you answer all questions as fully as possible and keep the content of your nomination focused – avoid exceeding the suggested word count.
- **TIS will inform all proposers of the outcome of their application Thursday 29th August 2024.**
- Finalists will be invited to the **TIS National Excellence Awards Ceremony**, as part of the TIS National Housing Conference and Exhibition, on **Thursday 7th November 2024** at the Grand Central Hotel in Glasgow.