

Meeting Notes: New Community Champions Online

Date: 2 December 2025

Duration: 52 mins

Facilitator: Sandra Rodney

Purpose of Meeting

- Introduce the concept of Community Champions
- Discuss expectations, responsibilities, and skills required
- Hear participants' views on what being a Community Champion means

Key Discussion Points

1. What does being a Community Champion mean?

- Advocacy and Representation: Act as a voice for residents who may lack confidence or face language barriers.
- Community Connection: Build relationships, foster inclusion, and create a sense of belonging.
- Link Role: Serve as a bridge between residents and housing association

2. Issues Raised by Participants

- Parking Problems: Lack of designated spaces; multiple cars per household causing tension.
- Safety Concerns: Broken gates, poor lighting, incidents of attempted theft and antisocial behaviour. Request for community police patrols.
- Housing Repairs & Maintenance: Long delays in repairs (e.g., windows, heating).
- Pest Infestation: Mice issues not fully resolved.
- Community Engagement: Desire for activities to build connections and share skills.

3. Skills and Qualities Needed

- Empathy & Listening
- Communication: Clear, assertive (not aggressive)
- Confidentiality

- Conflict Resolution
- Adaptability

4. Support and Training

- Skills Assessment: Individual sessions planned for January.
- Training Topics: Public speaking, confidence building, conflict resolution, safeguarding, digital tools.
- Safety Guidance: Avoid direct confrontation; use group communication channels.

5. Next Steps

- One-to-One Meetings: Sandra will schedule sessions to assess skills and provide guidance.
- Future Training: Group sessions in the new year.
- Community Engagement Plan: Explore activities and strategies for building stronger neighbourhood ties.

Closing Remarks

- Role is voluntary; step away if it impacts personal safety or wellbeing.
- Champions will work together as a support network.
- Everyone encouraged to stay connected and share ideas.