

# TENANT VOICE @ROTHERFED

Newsletter of RotherFed Tenant Voice  
ISSUE 3

 **October 2021**

Rotherham  
Federation



www.rotherhamfederation.org

Rotherham Federation (RotherFed) is a local, community led charity that helps to strengthen communities. We work in partnership with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council to ensure local people are represented, have a voice and make a difference.

## Meet the RotherFed Staff .....

Hi! I'm Kiera and I'm part of community support team. My goal is to achieve more diversity in the tenants currently involved in our work so we can get a clearer picture of our diverse Rotherham community!

I am 21 years old, a recent graduate from the University of Sheffield, and I was born here in Rotherham and raised in Brinsworth. As a Rotherham local, I recognise the diversity in our community and strive to represent this in my work. Rotherfed is my first full-time



position and I'm proud to be able to work for a charity based here in my home town. I'm currently hoping to improve the representation of council tenants from our young, BAME, rural, disabled, and working communities, if you feel you fit into one of these categories and want to have a chat please contact me!

kiera.lambert@rotherfed.org  
07399888035

## October Tenant Voice Events



**Coffee Morning**  
**Thrybergh Parish Hall**  
**Friday 20th October**  
**10am until 12pm**

**Pizza Night**  
**Unity Centre Rotherham**  
**Wednesday 20th October**  
**6.30pm until 8pm**

**Buffet Lunch**  
**Thrybergh Parish Hall**  
**Wednesday 27th October**  
**12pm until 2pm**

**If you are a current Tenant Voice Volunteer or a RMBC tenant who would like to get involved? Come along and see what Tenant Voice is all about. (all events are free of charge but booking is essential) Book via [carrie.kurt@rotherfed.org](mailto:carrie.kurt@rotherfed.org)**

## Upcoming Tenant Voice Meetings

**Tenant Scrutiny Panel – Monday 18th October – 10.30 until 12.00 (via Microsoft Teams)**

This panel could be a really interesting one from a tenant's perspective and will not only develop recommendations on service improvements but will also help to shape the council's response / compliance.

If you are interested in attending events or meetings please get in touch with [carrie.kurt@rotherfed.org](mailto:carrie.kurt@rotherfed.org) 07534 943658 if unsure about meetings you are welcome to come along and see what happens with no pressure to participate, just let us know.

## You said the Council Listened!

**The tenant scrutiny panel asked**  
Can you get on customer feedback after repairs by use of a text messaging service?

**Council responded**  
Thanks to your suggestion a new text messaging survey will be sent by text after all repairs.



## Volunteers - In Their Own Words

I started a craft group approximately 7 years ago to get me out of deep depression and I am pleased to say that the craft group has gone from strength to strength and now has over 12 members who meet on a weekly basis.

I also started volunteering and helping on a community garden at the rear of Charles Street and whilst doing the garden I reported a couple of concerns within Swinton and spoke to Wayne Munro-Smith from "Love where you live" and he asked me if I would be interested in joining a community group that was trying to get up and running and help them become a formal group. I knew RotherFed could help with this so got them involved too. Three years on, the group is a strong and productive group and I have now been given the title of Chief Recruitment Officer!

The benefits that I've got during this time has been a tremendous help for my mental health, it helps me to block out various problems at times. I've got to know the community who live in Swinton. I've been able to help many families and elderly residents. I also did this during lockdown by doing online quizzes, food parcels and gifts for Kidz project including something for Easter. It boosted the community's morale, as well as my own. It's given me a great boost to my own confidence, since becoming disabled, I had little confidence in going out. It's also opened my eyes to the number of families and people who are struggling, what their needs are and the fact I can help them is a fantastic feeling. People ask me when they need help and this gives me a buzz to know they can ask for my help. My name is a good one around the community. 😊



My volunteering journey has been incredible, I've been on the radio, in newspapers, made videos, I have achieved many things including becoming a chair exercise tutor, a qualified first aider and I have received my Level 1 in British Sign Language, the list goes on. I don't feel I would have been able to achieve this without the help of Rotherfed, Active Dearne and other organisations. I have also formed relationships with my local officers such as councillors and the police

## Spotlight on .....

Each month we will focus on ways you can get get involved, this month we are looking at Ward Housing Hubs. Ward Housing Hubs across the borough provide tenants with details on housing performance within their area, enable them to have a say on changes to service delivery and allow the tenants to have a say on how money will be spent on environmental improvements. There are a number of ways that you can become involved in your local Ward Housing Hub at differing levels and formality to suit you. You could put forward comments or ideas online through the Council's website, email us, talk to us or go through your local TARA. Projects should contribute towards addressing ward priorities, like the reduction of crime and/or the fear of crime; addressing antisocial behaviour, improving the quality of our neighbourhoods and the general environment.

