



# NEWSLETTER

April 2008

## **ARK HOUSING - THE NEED TO ORGANISE!**

To get the most out of membership it's important to get your workplace organised. The benefits of trade union recognition are clear. According to government statistics, if you work in a union organised workplace you will find on average that your pay is 11% higher, you get more paid holidays, a better pension, better promotion and training opportunities, and your workplace will be safer. You also get a real say in how your work is carried out and support when you have a problem. You can benefit from union bargaining and representation by coming together with your colleagues.

These benefits are only achievable if you are well organised and make the most of your union recognition agreement.

### **What's happening in Ark Housing?**

Ark Housing management wish to consult, in the very near future, with your trade union regarding changes in the organisation. It is very important that the thoughts and views of all our members within Ark Housing are aired and considered prior to negotiations taking place. We therefore require information from you and enclose a short survey with this newsletter. Members are asked to complete the survey and return it to us no later than 2nd May 2008. We are also inviting non members to complete the survey to obtain a full view of the Ark workforce.

### **Who is your Trade Union Steward?**

Do you know who your trade union steward is? Is your project office represented? Do you want a voice in negotiations? It is imperative that we have information and input from all Ark workplaces. Unite, your trade union, aims to have a least one steward within each workplace. If you do not already have a steward in your workplace could it be you? Could you recommend someone else? Discuss with your work colleagues and ensure you are represented. Full training is provided and we are currently looking at running a training course specifically for Stewards within Ark Housing next month.

### **The Bigger Picture**

Unite, your union, is embarking on a long term initiative, a campaign to drive up standards, terms and conditions and tackle '**The Funders**' within the community care sector. To be successful we need *your* input.

### **Not yet a member of Unite?**

Complete the [application form](#) overleaf and return to:

Pauline Campbell, Organising  
FREEPOST RLUE-UKCB-JRBB  
T&G Unite Office  
290 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4LD

### **Interested in being a Steward?**

Contact: Pauline Campbell, Organiser:  
07890 762186 or email  
[Pauline.Campbell@unitetheunion.com](mailto:Pauline.Campbell@unitetheunion.com)

## **NOTE**

- **Please return surveys by Friday 2nd May 2008**
- **Visit our new Ark Housing Blog Site:**  
[www.arkunionmembers.wordpress.com](http://www.arkunionmembers.wordpress.com)