Glasgow and West of Scotland Forum of Housing Associations

GWSF

23 April 2012
GWSF hosts busy election hustings

With the Council elections on 3 May approaching fast, GWSF has hosted a busy hustings meeting to give the main parties the chance to set out their stall and answer questions from our members.

More than 50 committee and staff members attended the hustings, held at Govanhill Housing Association on 19 April, and chaired by GWSF's Director Jim Harvey.

On the platform were:

- **Robert Brown**, the former MSP who is standing for the Liberal Democrats in South Lanarkshire's Rutherglen South ward;
- **Moira Crawford**, standing for the Greens in Glasgow Southside Central ward;
- **Sadie Docherty**, Labour's housing spokesperson on the outgoing Glasgow City Council and standing for re-election in Linn ward in May; and
- **Grant Thoms**, SNP housing spokesperson on the outgoing Glasgow City Council and a member of his party's National Executive committee.

The Conservatives and Glasgow First were also invited to take part, but were unable to join us.

In a lively session lasting nearly two hours, the main topics the candidates debated included:

- How to deliver new housing in the face of shrinking budgets and deep cuts in funding for individual projects;
- How the parties would make their promises about greater community empowerment in planning and delivering local services a reality;
- Tackling poor quality housing and management in the private rented sector; and
- How to maintain and improve local neighbourhood services in the present age of austerity.

GWSF has produced its own election briefing for the city of Glasgow, you can download a copy **HERE**