

**Feedback from Mentoring Briefing Session on 31st Aug 23**

We were delighted to hold our first interactive briefing session at the end of August, and many thanks to all the mentors and mentees who attended. Thanks also to Adele Fraser, our Mentoring Associate who led the event.

The topic for this session was how using Active Listening in mentoring can be a useful approach; and we discussed some examples of how Active Listening can be used effectively.

The group also provided examples of things that mentoring can support people with, including:

* Tenant safety matters – examples of how this topic can be compared and evaluated;
* Providing a perspective from the mentor as an external partner - how others might be dealing with similar issues;
* Assisting staff and Board/Committee members with settling into a new role;
* Looking at the many benefits that community-based associations can provide to tenants and communities;
* Board member retention/recruitment – ways of dealing with turnover and vacancies on Boards;
* Helping staff who are new to the housing association sector.

Adele advised that we are now looking for additional applications from mentors and mentees – see GWSF website for application form here - <https://gwsf.org.uk/mentoring-service/>

We are looking forward to holding quarterly briefings for mentoring participants with the next one planned for January 2024.

If you would like to have an informal chat about becoming a mentor or mentee, please get in touch with adele.fraser@gwsf.org.uk