

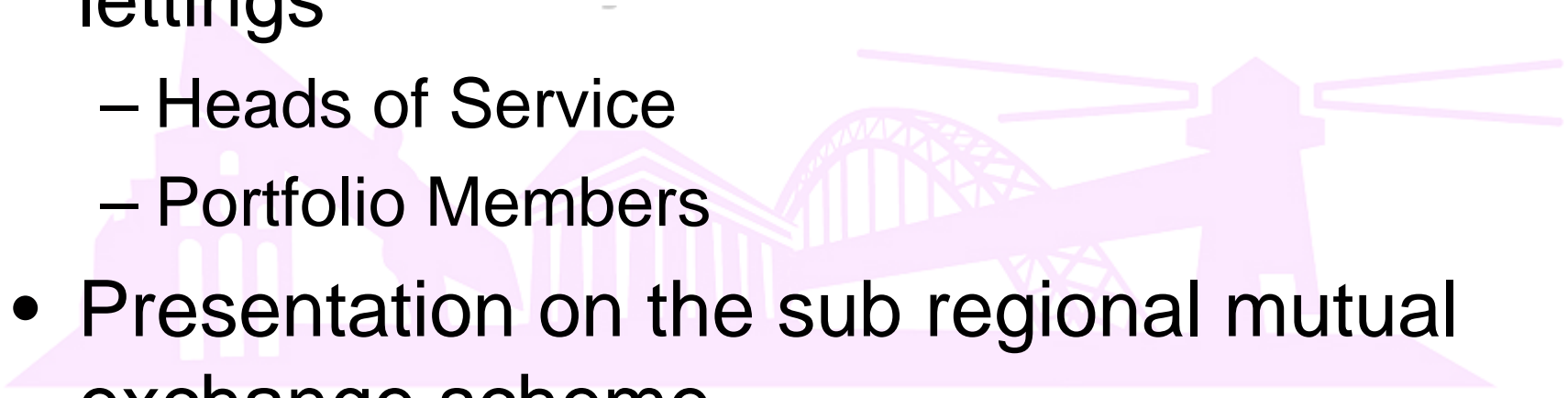
Tyne and Wear Housing Partnership



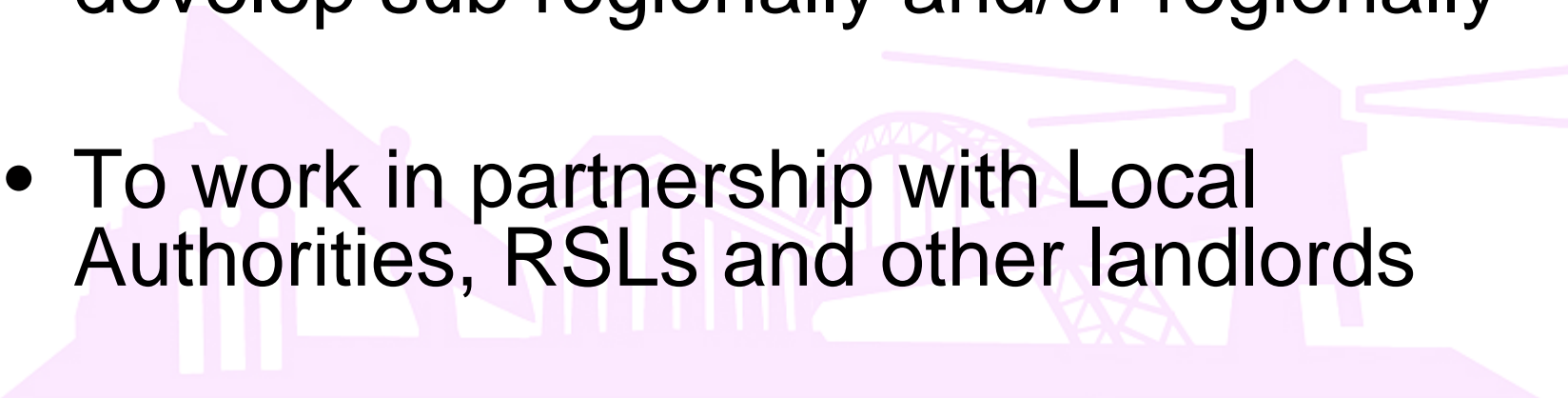
Sub Regional Choice Based
Lettings Update

January 2010

Your involvement so far

- Presentation on sub regional choice based lettings
 - Heads of Service
 - Portfolio Members
 - Presentation on the sub regional mutual exchange scheme
 - Updates to partnership
 - Support for the bid to CLG
- 
- A faint, light purple background illustration is visible behind the text. It depicts a bridge with a central arch and a building with a gabled roof to the left. The bridge has a tall, thin tower on the right side. The entire illustration is rendered in a simple, stylized manner.

Why develop sub regional CBL?

- Government drive for all CBL schemes to develop sub regionally and/or regionally
 - To work in partnership with Local Authorities, RSLs and other landlords
 - Offer customers “Greater Choice and Greater Mobility” (CLG consultation document Fair and Flexible July 2009)
- 

What are the benefits?

For the customer

- It will bring together a larger pool of housing
- It will break down artificial boundaries between LA areas
- It will give customers greater choice and opportunity to meet their housing need
- It will be more accessible and easier to understand

What are the benefits?

For partner organisations

- Reduced costs by improving efficiencies
- Better use of IT, improving information on the sub regional housing market
- Making better use of stock and reducing hard to let properties
- Assisting in homelessness and crisis prevention

What has been achieved so far

- Established a sound management board which has set a clear direction for the project
- Successful grant bid from CLG of £148,647 towards project cost
- Appointed a Project Coordinator and agreed project plan
- Introduced sub regional mutual exchange scheme
- Developed a Partnership Agreement for the life of the project

What has been achieved so far

- Established Working Groups in relation to:
 - Policy and Procedures
 - Communications and Consultation
 - ICT Development
- Completed a review of the procurement procedure and identified a preferred supplier
- Held demonstration of ICT solution to partner organisations

What are the Options ?

- Option 1

No action --- Dismissed by all partners who agreed to work towards a sub regional scheme in the bid submitted to the CLG in August 2008

- Option 2

All partners pool properties and advertise on 1 web site

- Option 3
1 application process, 1 housing register, 1 web site
- Option 4
1 application process, 1 housing register, 1 selection process but allowing for retention of local policies except where good practice and existing similarities have been identified, 1 web site.
- Option 5
1 application process, 1 housing register, 1 web site, 1 allocation policy

Preferred Option

- **Option 4**

Advantages

1 application process
making it easier for the
customer to understand,
1 selection process,
1 site for all available
properties
better use of ICT,
more co-ordinated
housing strategy

improved ICT will enable
customers to make better
use of bid opportunities,
improved procurement
opportunities,
potential for greater
savings and efficiencies,
allows for local letting
plans and eligibility to be
retained

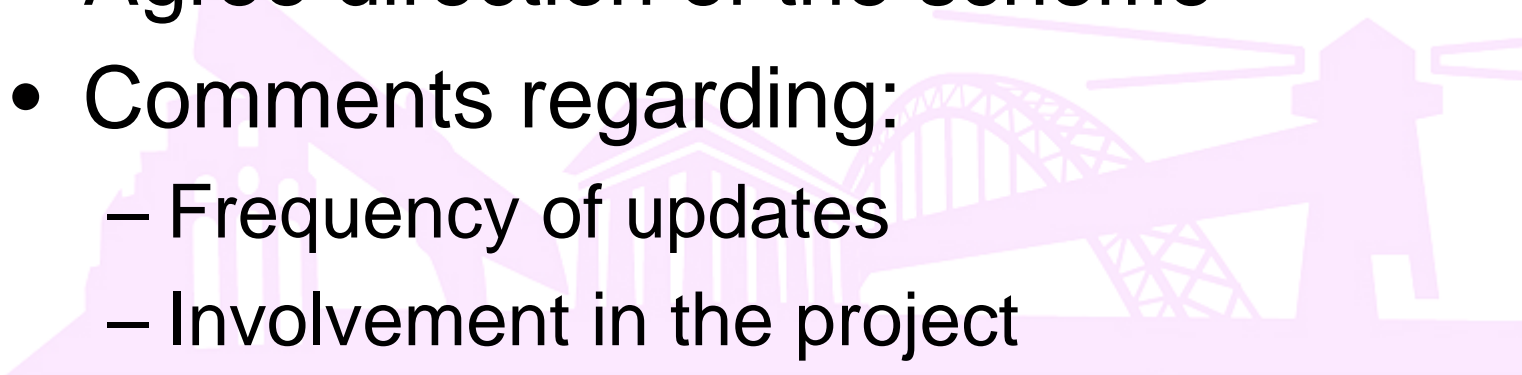
What will be the key outcomes?

- One application process for all housing organisations in the sub region
- One housing register for the sub region
- A sub regional selection criteria which is easy for customers to understand
- Common IT systems for both staff and customers
- Common means of advertising available housing options

The next steps

- Partnership Agreement sign up
- Continue with Working Groups to develop scheme
- Establish other groups to tackle specific issues
- Work with key stakeholders, RSLs and partners, including customers to promote and expand the scheme
- Expand the scheme to incorporate a wide range of housing options, low cost home ownership etc.

What are we asking from you?

- Comments on progress so far
 - Agree direction of the scheme
 - Comments regarding:
 - Frequency of updates
 - Involvement in the project
 - Buy in of Members and key stakeholders
- 
- A faint, light purple background illustration is visible behind the text. It depicts a bridge with a central arch and a building with a gabled roof and multiple windows, possibly a school or community center. The illustration is stylized and serves as a decorative backdrop.



Working in partnership with
South Tyneside Council



South Tyneside Council