Transfer of HMO responsibilities under Local Government Reform

On 9th April 2014 the Local Government Bill was passed in the Northern Ireland Assembly, providing the framework for the transfer of various powers to the 11 new councils. This was to include the transfer of responsibility for the registration of Houses in Multiple Occupation from the Housing Executive to the new councils from April 2015.

On the 11 November 2014 the Minister for Social Development Mervyn Storey MLA advised the Northern Ireland Assembly that before transferring the housing functions of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Housing Unfitness to the new councils he will await the implementation of the Housing Strategy Plan 2012/17 which includes the Social Housing Reform Programme, the regulation of Houses in Multiple Occupation and housing unfitness.

This means that the Northern Ireland Housing Executive will continue to be responsible for the regulation of HMOs in Northern Ireland beyond April 2015.

Further information relating to the regulation of HMOs in Northern Ireland can be found on the N I Housing Executive <u>website</u>

Further information relating to Local Government Reform can be found <u>here</u>