

Consultation on the proposal that SHR directs the transfer of all of Thistle's assets to Sanctuary Scotland

Questions and Answers for tenants and factored owners

I am a tenant - will I keep my home and my tenancy?

Yes. The proposed transfer does not affect your home or tenancy. If the proposal to direct the transfer of Thistle's assets proceeds your new landlord will be Sanctuary Scotland.

Why has SHR decided to consult tenants about a transfer of Thistle to Sanctuary Scotland? Tenants and residents have already given their views about a transfer, why does there need to be more consultation?

Thistle's management committee has asked SHR to consider using our statutory powers to direct the transfer of all of Thistle's assets to Sanctuary Scotland. SHR can do this under section 67 of the 2010 Act.

SHR is aware that there has already been significant consultation and that further consultation may be frustrating for tenants and residents who have already given their views. The majority of tenants have also voted 'yes' to transfer in a ballot. However, SHR is required by the 2010 Act to consult with tenants before making a direction to Thistle to transfer its assets to Sanctuary Scotland. Once the consultation is complete, the Regulator must consider all the views expressed by those who have been consulted before making a direction.

So it's really important that you tell SHR what you think about the proposal, even if you have already been involved in the consultation and have voted in the ballot.

SHR only needs to consult tenants.

- **Why has the consultation been extended to include factored owners?**
- **What about shareholders?**

The 2010 Act only requires SHR to consult with tenants. However, the proposed transfer to Sanctuary Scotland will directly affect factored owners. SHR has therefore decided in this case that all factored owners should be given the opportunity to express their views. The transfer will not directly affect shareholders in the same way. They do not receive any services from Thistle.

What will happen to the transfer commitments made by Sanctuary Scotland under the voluntary transfer?

Sanctuary Scotland has confirmed that they remain committed to delivering the transfer and that includes through a direction to transfer Thistle's assets. Sanctuary Scotland has also confirmed that they will deliver all they have committed to in the voluntary transfer business case, as set out in the Stage 1 consultation.

How soon will the transfer happen?

The direction to transfer Thistle's assets is still just a proposal. Nothing will happen until after you have been consulted and SHR has considered your views. If the transfer proceeds, it is likely to happen early next year.

What if the transfer doesn't happen?

If the transfer to Sanctuary was stopped, despite the support of tenants, SHR would have to consider how best to protect the interests of Thistle's tenants and service users. SHR's considerations may include directing a transfer to another RSL.

Why is SHR not conducting the consultation itself?

SHR has decided to appoint an organisation with good experience of consulting tenants to ensure that the consultation is run in the best way possible. SHR wants to ensure that tenants and factored owners obtain the information they need and are able to express their views freely.

Why has SHR appointed TIS?

TIS are Thistle's current Independent Tenant Adviser and therefore already aware of the current situation at Thistle, the plans for the transfer of Thistle to Sanctuary Scotland and tenants' and factored owners' views on the proposed transfer. Tenants and owners are also already familiar with TIS.

TIS are the only ITA with experience of carrying out consultation about a directed transfer.

What if I don't want to be consulted?

It is important that tenants and factored owners understand why SHR is considering directing a transfer of Thistle to Sanctuary Scotland and the implications of this. While SHR would like to hear from as many tenants and factored owners as possible, SHR respects that there may be those who would prefer not to be involved.

How will TIS know how to get in touch with me?

Thistle will provide TIS with your name, address and details of whether you are a tenant or factored owner. This is the only information that will be passed to TIS.

How will my details be kept secure?

Thistle and TIS will be the Data Controllers of your personal data, as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018. They are responsible for ensuring that personal data will be kept secure and processed only for matters relating to the consultation. Thistle and TIS provide more information regarding storage and processing of your data within their privacy policies.

What will TIS do with my data at the end of the consultation process?

SHR's contract with TIS requires that they destroy your personal data when the consultation period is over. TIS has agreed to do this in line with their privacy policy and SHR will check that they have done so.