

Annual General Meeting

The association's Annual General Meeting took place in September 2018. Shareholders attending the AGM heard that the association's turnover for the year has decreased to over £5.07million (£5.39 million last year); this was partly due to the rent cut and the loss of a 10 year rent restructuring grant which had ended in 2017.

The Finance Director reported that the Operating costs are higher this year due to inflation and growth, although still within 2% of the 2015 cost levels.

He also noted that net fixed assets were at £33million (c.£65m gross value), with £1.9m spent on 16 properties purchased during the year and £600k spent on component replacements.

Shareholders were delighted to hear that the association had been through a formal IDA assessment and confirmed that Arawak Walton achieved the highest rating of a V1/G1.

The Chair highlighted that we have also expanded our office base this year. A Open Day event to enable stakeholders to see the new premises (see separate article) took place before the AGM was a great success. It was further noted that we now own and manage over 1,132 homes, 66 homes on behalf of Boaz Trust. She confirmed stock rationalisation opportunities via our partners which had enabled us to grow in line with our business plan objectives.

Thanks were given to the Staff, the Board, founder members, our partners, members of the Tenants Quality Panel and our lenders for their continued commitment and support.





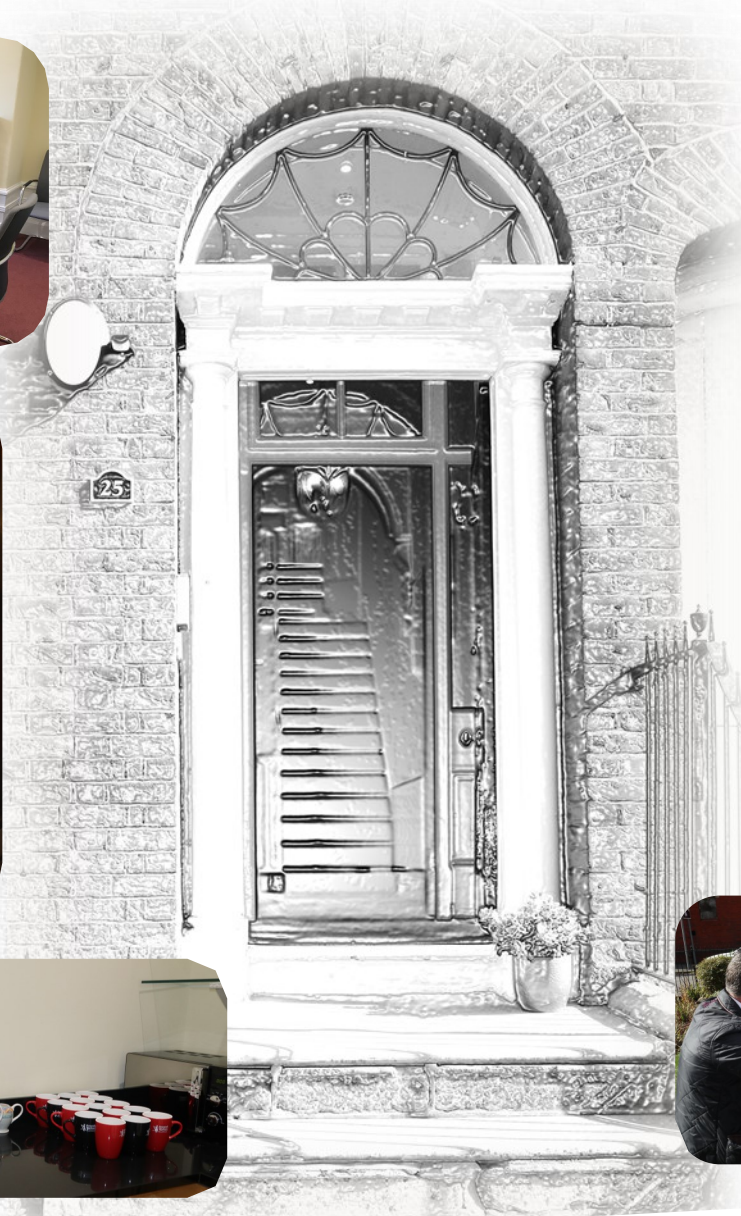
New Board Member

Following our AGM in September, we are pleased to announce that we have officially appointed **Mr Robert Wakefield** onto our Board. Rob is the Chief Executive of Community Gateway Association (CGA), a housing association that owns and manages over 6,000 homes in Preston. Prior to joining the Board Rob's involvement with Arawak Walton began in 2014 when he became a co-opted Member of the Audit Committee.

Office Open Day

Arawak Walton held an Office Open Day and Drinks Reception to show case our brand new refurbished and extended offices at Manor Street.

We were pleased to welcome our stakeholders, partners, shareholders and community groups to the event and together we celebrated Arawak Walton's successes over the past 12 months and to say a big thank you to our partners and stakeholders for all their support.



ARAWAK WALTON FUN DAY 2018



In August we hosted our 3rd Tenants fun day and yet again it turned out to be another fabulous day! Our fun days are getting bigger and better each year.

The day brought our Arawak Walton family together and community spirit was high. We had tenants, contractors, Board members, charity organisations such as Sickle Cell Manchester and Fathers Against Violence, Manchester PCSO's to name a few and a speech was delivered by The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of the City of Manchester, Councillor June Hitchen.



Arawak Walton
Housing Association
Fun Day 2018



www.propandpose.co.uk www.facebook.com/propandposeuk Ph: 07718172339



There were lots of activities to keep the children (and adults) entertained as they enjoyed the fun photo booths, football, arts and crafts, tombola, adopt a bear, giant jenga and connect 4! We even had our very own DJ, Vicky, too.

Children had their faces painted and Henna resulted in beautifully decorated faces and hands. The sun shone and rain stayed away for the day!

African Drumming and Dancing activity went down extremely well with everyone and we made sure no one went hungry with our delicious food from Good Mood Food and Traditional Ice cream and cake for afters!

We would like to thank everyone who attended and helped at the event and we hope to see you all next year.

Special thanks to our contractors Hadfield and Britain LTD, Redmire Construction, EP&S Builders, IJM Electrical contractors, DJ Hughes Construction LTD and Barlows UK LTD who sponsored this event. Without their kind donations we wouldn't have been to make the day such a success.

All the proceeds from the event went to **Fathers Against Violence and Sickle Cell Manchester.**



STAFF NEWS



We have had quite a few changes to our staff team in the last few months and we're excited to share the details with you...

NEW



Charmaine Hylton

Charmaine joined us in July and works part time as a Housing Officer. Charmaine has over 17 years of experience within housing and customer services roles.

NEW



Ebi Wellington

Ebi has been working with us as a Housing Officer for a number of months originally on a temporary basis and has now been employed by Arawak Walton permanently, following a successful recruitment opportunity. Ebi will be working Tuesday to Friday from now onwards. Ebi has worked in social housing for over 20 years.

GOOD LUCK



Janice Ashworth left the Association in August after working for us for 12 years in the Maintenance Team! Luckily, we will all still see Janice as she will still be helping us look after our homes. She has started her own business and is now one of our contractors! Thank you Janice for 12 years of hard work and dedication. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.



Community News

Once again Arawak Walton have been proud to sponsor the Youth on Solid Ground annual summer football tournament. YOSG do some great work with young people in Manchester and the football tournament is always well attended. Some of the team for Arawak Walton went along to watch the games in Whalley Range and a fun time was had by all.

For more information on Youth on Solid Ground visit their website - www.yosg.org.uk



CELEBRATING WINDRUSH 70TH ANNIVERSARY



It was 70 years ago on, 22 June 1948, that the Empire Windrush sailed into Tilbury Docks, bringing people from the Caribbean, to Britain.

Many came to the 'mother country' to see what it was like and to start a new life with the promise of employment; helping to rebuild Britain following WWII.

As the 70th anniversary approached we debated whether, given the current problems the Windrush Generation are facing, should we be celebrating this day?

However, we could not ignore the fantastic contribution that people from the Caribbean have

made to this country, to name just a few, those employed in the National Health Service and Transport Industry.

On Friday 22 June 2018 tenants and staff from Arawak Walton and people in the local community came together at Bougainvillea Gardens Sheltered Scheme in Longsight, to remember those who 'took a chance' on a better life in Britain.

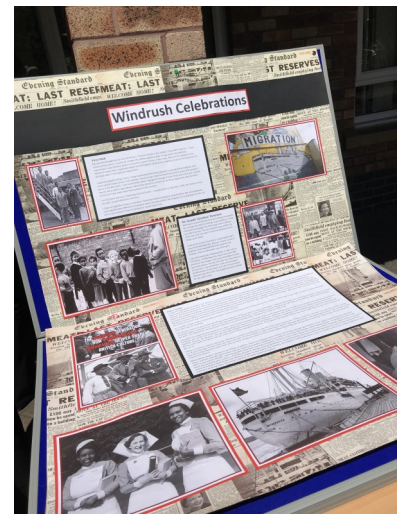
The day was a great success.



We are looking forward to 22nd June 2019 when we will celebrate this event all over again. We hope to see you there!



The sun blazed, the steel drummer played and we danced. There was also plenty of food and drink to enjoy. It was almost like being in the Caribbean!



Linford Sweeney, Black History Educator, gave an informative presentation and showed film, memories and music of that era.

Mr Horel Grant our brilliant DJ kept the music going and Mr Selvin Grant entertained us with his singing and dancing, both are our lovely Arawak Walton tenants.



We even featured on Granada News!

<http://www.itv.com/news/granada/update/2018-06-23/celebrating-manchesters-windrush-generation/>

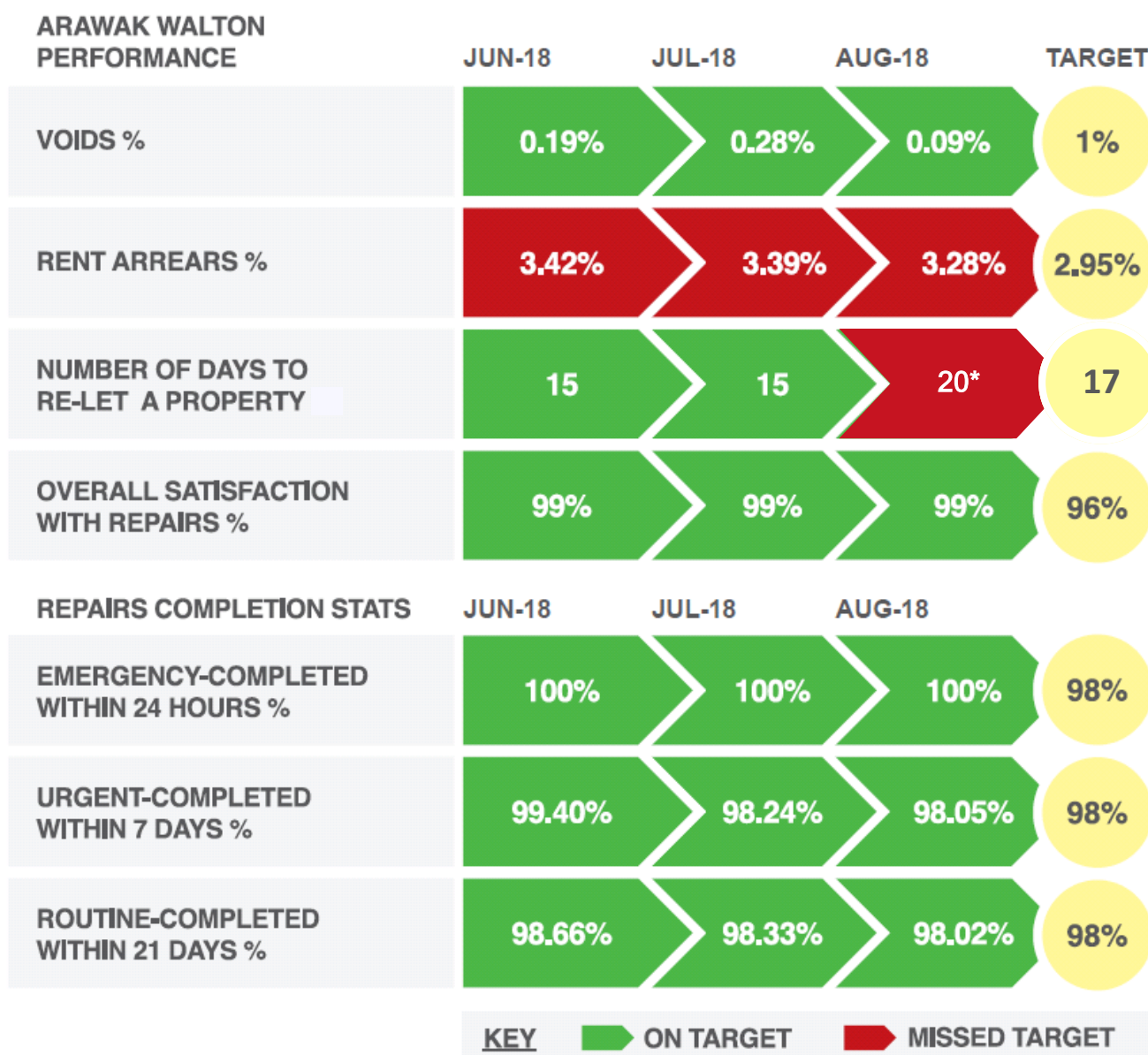


Interested in joining our Board?

First you have to become a shareholder. If you are interested in working more closely with the association to make a difference to peoples' lives, please contact Bindu Pandya on 0161-272-5248 for a Shareholder/Board member pack. This will give you all the information you need on the requirements for becoming a Board member.

Remember if you have any comments or would like to contribute an article to our newsletter, please contact
Bindu Pandya
0161 272 5248.

How are we performing?



*There were some major works carried out whilst properties were in void, which affected August re-let targets.

Please put this newsletter up on your reception notice board or circulate it to others who you think may find it of interest. Alternatively, if you feel your organisation would benefit from having more copies available, please contact Bindu on the above telephone number.