

Membership Policy for PEC Homes

1. Background

Plymouth Energy Community established PEC Homes in March 2020 as a Community Benefit Society that will bring forward a pipeline of locally owned net zero affordable housing developments in and around Plymouth.

2. Vision and Mission

Our vision is to create genuinely affordable, healthy homes in the heart of Plymouth, so that our community can be part of the solution to tackle fuel poverty and climate change. A diverse membership base, made up of individuals and organisations will play a key role in this because it allows us:

- To fairly represent local community housing needs and provide diversity of thought and creativity for innovative solutions.
- To validate and give legitimacy to our purpose, to demonstrate support and approval for what we do and to strengthen our call for change in the housing sector.
- To give our wider community the opportunity to show support and participate in the decisions needed to create comfortable homes with low bills and a fair rent.

3. Membership

PEC Homes membership is aimed at those who wish to take an active interest in the operation and development of the Society and its business. It comes with an obligation to participate in activities and tasks listed below as Cooperative and/or Governance participation. Members are expected to engage at least twice per year in these:

- Cooperative Participation
 - Come together to contribute to working groups around topics of interest, report to Board.
 - Contribute ideas and share connections – through surveys, events, or talking to staff and the Board.
- Governance Participation
 - Receive annual Directors report and accounts – attend AGM.
 - Vote on member decisions and election of Board.
 - Stand as a Director.

4. Membership Criteria

- a) Membership is voluntary and open to any individual or organisations that support the aims of PEC Homes.
- b) Members must be 16 years or older.
- c) Members must complete an application for membership, which must be approved by the Directors. Directors can choose to delegate this responsibility.
- d) A corporate body that is a Member shall by resolution of its governing body appoint a representative. Each corporate body Member shall notify in writing to the Company the name of the representative. Each Corporate body Member will be entitled to one vote only, regardless of their size.

5. Role and Responsibilities

The role and responsibilities of a Member:

- a) Each member has a voting right and with that right certain responsibilities:
 - i) Members need to understand and support the aims and principles of PEC Homes.
 - ii) Members have the right to vote for Directors at the Annual General Meeting.
 - iii) All Members agree to take an active interest in the operation and development of PEC Homes and its business. This can be through Cooperative and/or Governance activities previously outlined.
 - iv) Members have a duty to respect the confidential nature of the business decisions of PEC Homes.

The role and responsibilities of PEC Homes:

- a) PEC Homes will offer Members a range of accessible activities to allow participation.
- b) PEC Homes will make reasonable adjustments to allow for better participation.

6. Membership Size

PEC Homes wishes to maintain an active group of regularly participating Members of between 50 and 100.

7. Terminating Membership

Membership can be terminated by the Member should they wish to do so, or by the Company under certain circumstances. The Board will periodically monitor levels of Members participation. Members that are unable to engage at least twice per year in Cooperative and/or Governance participation tasks will be encouraged to become a Supporter of PEC Trust instead.

8. Expulsion from Membership

A member can be expelled for conduct prejudicial to the Company.

9. Cost of Membership

There is no cost of membership, it is free.

10. Register of Members

Members details will be held in a register. The Member's register will be held in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 and the Data Protection Act 1998. Members shall be informed of how their data will be processed upon collection and through the Company's Privacy Policy, available online or by request.

11. Membership Engagement and communications

- a) Everyone who applies to join as a Member will be given a clear explanation of what PEC Homes is, and what membership means.
- b) All new Members will be welcomed by appropriate means of communication.
- c) The Company can provide membership information and communications in accessible formats/
- d) All documents will be available online. Hard copies available upon request.