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President: Peter Haywood IRRV (Tech) MBA
Treasurer: Mike Shang FIRRV

**Supported Accommodation Workshop**

**Venue – Shield Room, South Ribble Borough Council, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, PR25 1DH**

**Date – Wednesday 17th February 2016**

Dear Colleague

The Lancashire and Cheshire Association Executive recognises that the delivery of high quality professional events is a key requirement for our members. I am pleased to announce a half day supported accommodation workshop which aims to explore the issues around supported accommodation and the wider challenges local authorities face in relation to decision making and discretion.

The half day will include a look at the challenges faced by Local Authorities, Benefit Practitioners and Support Providers in relation to this particularly complex area of benefits administration. The workshop will be hosted by **Pauline Wass, Revenues & Benefits Manager at Knowsley M.B.C, Catherine Nicholson, former Benefits Operational Manager at St Helens Borough Council and current Managing Director of Fortunatus Housing Solutions, and Malcolm Gardner a former Revenues & Benefits Manager, Co-Founder and Chief Executive of the Welfare Reform Club.**

The event is also an excellent opportunity to catch up with colleagues and representatives from other authorities and organisations.

Our seminars have previously been very well subscribed with positive feedback from both delegates and employers. At **£50 per delegate** I believe that the event offers excellent value for money; it will of course be delivered to the usual high standards of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association. **In addition the Association is continuing to offer members of the Institute a generous 50% Discount.**

The seminar is designed to examine how practitioners can work with service and support providers to ensure the best outcome for vulnerable residents and considers the application of discretion now and in the future. The morning will be particularly useful for:

* Anyone interested in the issues relating to Housing Benefit for residents in Supported Accommodation;
* Benefits staff responsible for Supported Accommodation claims;

Full details of the seminar and a booking form are attached.

Yours sincerely,

**Peter Haywood IRRV (Tech) MBA**

Association President

**Please visit our website:** [**http://irrvassociations.org.uk/index.php?Aid=3**](http://irrvassociations.org.uk/index.php?Aid=3)

**Lancashire & Cheshire IRRV Association**

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**17th February 2016**

**Chair – Peter Haywood, Association President**

**Agenda**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Topic** | **Speaker** |
| **9.30** | **Seminar Registration and Coffee** |
| 10.00 | Workshop Introduction and Objectives | Peter Haywood IRRV (Tech) MBA Association President |
| 10.10 | Supported Accommodation – the Challenges for Local Authority Benefit Services | Pauline WassKnowsley M.B.C |
| 10:30 | Exempt and Supported Accommodation – and inside view from the MD of a supported accommodation provider and former Housing Benefit Manager | Catherine NicholsonMD Fortunatus Housing Solutions |
| **11.00** | **Break** |
| 11.15 | The application of discretion now and in the future -- Workshop | Malcolm GardnerThe Welfare Reform Club |
| **12.30** | **Workshop Close & Lunch** |

# Booking Form: Supported Accommodation Workshop

**Date:** Wednesday 17th February 2016

**Venue:** Shield Room, South Ribble Borough Council, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, PR25 1DH (onsite car parking is available)

**Times:** Start: 9.30 a.m. for 10.00 a.m.
Finish: 12.30 p.m. (approximate)

**Cost:** £50.00 per delegate ― includes refreshments & lunch (will be invoiced to you).

£ 25.00 for Members of the IRRV

To reserve your places fill in your details **including your Purchase Order number** and email them no later than to:

Mike Harkins IRRV, Assistant Treasurer

Email: mharkins@rundles.org.uk

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| **Name of Authority** |  |
| **Address for correspondence** |  |
| **Contact name & Tel no** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **PO Number** |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Delegate** | **Contact Telephone Number** | **Email Address** | **IRRV Member? (Yes\No)** | **Dietary requirements** |
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