Pros and Cons of BDAC having ONLY associations as members
OR individual tenants as core members – shareholders with a vote

Advantages of Organisational members only	**Advantages of Individual Tenants being core members with a share and a vote**
• BDAC's primary focus as an umbrella organisation is organisational members rather than individual tenants • It makes BDAC focus on building capacity and participation within associations not dealing with lots of individual issues which associations should be able to handle • Easier for BDAC to consult on issues where we need approval for changes – only approx. 100 contacts we need to inform rather than 5000+ tenants. Realistically, many tenants may be uninterested in issues and reliant on their committees to give a lead, so BDAC focus is on the Association activists to support the changes. • Associations would have responsibility to collect views of tenants including ones without IT access or mobile phones on issues that need decisions • Where BDAC is trying to mediate but there is unresolved conflict between individual tenant and association/committee, BDAC represents association and refers individual tenant elsewhere – it doesn't try to represent both sides which is difficult. • At general meetings, as long as attendance meets standard set in Rules, it should be easier to get decisions made than if we're needing an unrealistically high proportion of Members attending.	• Built into constitution (Rules) that BDAC has to pay attention to both needs and interests of Associations and individual tenants • Individual tenants remain entitled to their problems and cases being taken up by the BDAC; priority is not automatically the Association • Every tenant has a voice even if their Association is inactive or s/he has a minority view on the site • Tenants on Directly Managed sites can become members of the BDAC • It's now possible to set up consultation and voting system using website & other means such as texts, WhatsApp groups etc so we can devise ways of communicating effectively with 5000+ tenants. • We can recruit Executive members from all plotholders and would not be restricted to one per Association
Disadvantages of Organisational members only	**Disadvantages of Individual Tenants being core members**
• We're relying on all associations being sufficiently participative to select someone to put their viewpoints forward in a balanced way – is this over-optimistic? • If associations are not democratic or participative, BDAC may fail to pick up important issues for tenants • It's difficult to monitor how well associations are involving their members in decisions and what do we do if they are run poorly? • People on 7 BDAC Directly Managed sites don't have a formal voice or vote (approx. 100 tenants) • Very small associations have disproportionate influence compared to large associations when there is a vote on an issue • Is it possible to have more than one individual from an Association on the Exec, especially if Association not incorporated?	• Tenants who may be unaware of the constraints for Associations running sites get to make decisions which could make it difficult for them to manage sites in the future • It could be time-consuming and expensive to collect views of all tenants esp.ones without emails or mobile phones, and difficult to consult tenants on directly managed sites with no association • It could be difficult to keep up to date with changes in tenancies/Tenant members and collect £1 shares, aswell as track who is entitled to vote at AGMs • It could be tricky in BDAC consultations balancing views of associations and individual tenants and weighing up the interests of each • General meetings: how to ensure we get enough attending to be able to pass decisions – likely to be inquorate if % attendance is unrealistic (10% of 5000 = 500) • It's difficult for BDAC to represent interests of both associations and individuals in cases of conflict