

## UPRN Working group meeting – 20 May 2024

**Attendees:** Theresa Wallace, Simon Barlow, Dan Hughes, Gary Trent, Beverley Kennard, Guy Harris, Anna Powell-Smith, Wojciech Zych, Dirk Dette, Ray Kyrson, Susan Smith

**Apologies:** Andrew Bulmer

### Discussion

- TW/AB met with Ian Fletcher from the British Property Federation (BPF) who was very supportive and provided useful contacts for the Treasury and UK Prop Tech. He also introduced TW to Alex Notay from PFP Capital who was very enthusiastic about the idea of Gas/Electrical registers and she is going to make some further introductions.
- The UPRN work taking place in the Lettings sector needs to be extended across the industry. We need to broaden our voice and incorporate other parts of the industry, e.g. Sales. The RED Foundation is aiming to bring the sectors together.
- Geospace had a very positive call with Land Registry about how to get UPRNs imbedded in their data sets.
- TW attended an APPG roundtable for the Private Rented Sector – Improving Enforcement, chaired by Andrew Lewer MP. They discussed the property portal and data sharing.
  - DWP – not very good at data sharing. Simon Barlow noted that they have however embraced UPRNs within their software.
  - Pilot has taken place in Blackpool and Oldham and they may have found a solution to share their data.
  - TW meeting with contact re property portal scoping. BK is happy to join this meeting.
- Following meetings with Reapit, MRI and Gas Safe, DH noted that the following should be a focus for this working group:
  - Encourage clients to ask their CRMs for UPRNs to be included in the software.
  - Ensure UPRN is built into property portal and anything else like it.
  - Awareness and cost are biggest barriers. Cost split into two parts:
    1. PSGA – how do we raise members’ awareness of the UPRN data being free for them to use?
    2. The funding for UPRN data for the private sector needs addressing.
- GH – need to do some work around educating the sector about who is going to hold UPRN data and how the data is accessed? User journeys/case studies to be created to see how this applies to different businesses across the property industry.
- User journey could also be mapped out from a consumer perspective to show how this would work for them? Could be a way to increase consumer pressure for UPRNs. DH believes that consumers would always use the address rather than UPRN and the UPRN would work as a link in the background rather than a number they use.
- APS suggested that a priority should be to clarify the following for software companies/developers who are incorporating the UPRN into their infrastructure:
  - What is the data source?

- What is the cost?
- What are the licence implications?

### **Actions**

- Set up meetings with Fixflo, PayProp, Matt Goddard.
- GT – send list of CRMs that VOA are in contact with.
- SB – create guidance/webpage to provide clarity around common UPRN barriers and break some of the myths.
- GH – produce a case study/user journey example for his business using the UPRN.
- DH – draft an open letter re UPRN that goes to both parties and companies across the sector. Once finalised gain support by asking companies to sign their support and provide their logo.