

MINUTES OF THE 726TH MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE, HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022 AT 10AM (PRIVATE SESSION HELD FROM 9.30AM TO 10AM)

Professor Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that all mobile devices be switched to silent.

	<p><u>PRESENT:</u></p> <p>Professor P Roberts Chair Mr J McMullan Vice Chair Mr J McCall Board Member Mr D Wilson Board Member Mr C Welch Board Member Ms P Leeson Board Member Cllr M Ruane Board Member (Zoom) Cllr C Elattar Board Member (Zoom) Ald A Grehan Board Member Ald A Bresland Board Member (Zoom) Ms P Rogina Boardroom Apprentice</p>
	<p><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> <p>Mrs G Long Chief Executive Mrs C McFarland Director of Finance, Audit and Assurance Mr P Isherwood Director of Asset Management Mr D Moore Director of Corporate Services Mrs J Hawthorne Interim Director of Housing Services Ms E Newberry Interim Director of Regional Services Mr J Blease Head of Corporate Communications Ms A Reilly Head of Internal Audit, Risk & Governance Mr E Jones Risk and Governance Manager Mrs K Smyth Board / Committee Manager</p>
	<p><u>OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE FOR SPECIFIC ITEMS OF BUSINESS:</u></p> <p>Ms C Robinson BCS Representative - for item 2 Ms J Hughes BCS Representative - for item 2</p> <p>Ms F Gallagher Head of Legal Services - item 5.1 Ms A Hickey AD - Land & Regeneration - item 5.1</p>

	<p><u>APOLOGIES:</u></p> <p>Ms J Brown Graduate Trainee</p>	
1.1	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>PR welcomed everyone to the Meeting and noted the above apology.</p>	
1.2	<p><u>Declarations of Interests</u></p> <p>None.</p>	
<p><u>PRESENTATION</u></p>		
2.	<p><u>POWERPOINT PRESENTATION & REPORT: External NIHE Board Effectiveness Review</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> the Board welcomed the Draft External Board Effectiveness Report from Business Consultancy Services (BCS) and noted the positivity evidenced therein.</p> <p><u>NOTED:</u> BCS confirmed the report was ‘Draft’ and welcomed amendments or further reflections from Members following the meeting. PR indicated he would revisit the content and correspond further.</p>	
<p><u>BOARD BUSINESS</u></p>		
		<u>Action</u>
3.1	<p><u>VIRTUALLY APPROVED MINUTES:</u> Special Board Meeting held on Wednesday 28 September 2022.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> the Board ‘marked as read’ the above Minutes, which had been virtually circulated and approved by all Members following the previous meeting.</p>	
3.2	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u></p> <p>None raised.</p>	

<u>STANDING ITEMS</u>		
4.1	<p><u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Chair’s Business</p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
4.2	<p><u>BOARD REPORT & UPDATE ON EMERGING ISSUES - CHIEF EXECUTIVE:</u></p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
<u>STRATEGIC BUSINESS</u>		
5.1	<p><u>PRESENTATION & PAPER:</u> Hope Street Preferred Option</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> the Board approved the Paper recommendation.</p>	
5.2	<p><u>APPROVAL PAPER:</u> Annual Rent Increase Proposals for 2023/24</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> the Board approved the recommended rent increase and instructed Officers to liaise with the Department.</p>	
<u>INTERVAL</u>		
<p>There was a brief interval from 12noon to 12.05pm, with all previously present resuming their seats.</p>		
5.3	<p><u>APPROVAL PAPER:</u> CT055 Planned Maintenance Contracts</p> <p><u>APPROVED.</u></p>	
5.4	<p><u>APPROVAL PAPER:</u> Risk Appetite Review</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> the Board - (1) welcomed ARAC’s consideration / review of the Risk Appetite; and (2) approved the assessment of risk appetite, to remain ‘Measured’ overall.</p>	
5.5	<p><u>APPROVAL PAPER:</u> Proposed Changes to Standing Orders and Board Scheme of Delegations</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> the Board -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(1) approved changes to the Standing Orders and Board Scheme of Delegations to: increase general delegated expenditure authority for senior management and</p>	

	<p>management committees; these amendments will enhance decision-making authority for operational matters;</p> <p>(2) noted the implementation of the changes will take effect from 1 January 2023 and proposed next stage of the review to consider delegated expenditure authority for the Board, Board committees or Executive Team;</p> <p>(3) noted that approval of the Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegations is a power reserved to the Board; and</p> <p>(4) also approved delegation of this power to the Resources and Performance Committee to consider future iterations / updates to the documentation.</p>	
<p><u>OPERATIONAL APPROVAL PAPERS</u></p>		
6.1	<p><u>APPROVAL PAPER:</u> Finance Report</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> the Board noted the financial position as at 30 September 2022, and approved the actions planned and underway to address significant issues.</p>	
6.2	<p><u>APPROVAL PAPER:</u> Organisational Performance Monitor for the half year as at September 2022</p> <p><u>APPROVED.</u></p>	
6.3	<p><u>APPROVAL PAPER:</u> Business Case - Demolition of 9 Bonds Street, Derry / Londonderry, BT47 6EB</p> <p><u>APPROVED.</u></p>	
<p><u>COMMITTEE BUSINESS (COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES)</u></p>		
7.1	<p><u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Briefing from Tenant & Customer Services Committee Chair - 5th Committee Meeting held on 22 September 2022</p>	
7.2	<p><u>VERBAL REPORT & PAPER:</u> Briefing from ARAC Committee Chair - 157th Committee Meeting held on 26 September 2022</p>	
7.3	<p><u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Briefing from Resources & Performance Committee Chair - 11th Committee Meeting held on 27 September 2022</p>	

7.4	<p><u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Briefing from Asset Management and Maintenance Committee Chair - 11th Committee Meeting held on 28 September 2022</p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
<p><u>STANDING ITEMS</u></p>		
8.1	<p><u>STANDING ITEM:</u> Housing Council - Monthly Update</p> <p>Housing Council Members had no specific issues to share, although took a moment to thank the NIHE outgoing Chair for his support and helpfulness during their respective terms of office.</p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
<p><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p>		
8.2	<p>The below items were raised:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Afternoon Programme - Away Day Session</i> <p>PR reminded everyone of the afternoon programme which would commence around 1.45pm and noted apologies from AB, CE and MR. Several Independent Committee Members and a few officers were also expected to join the Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Special Thank You / Tribute to Outgoing Chair, Professor P Roberts</i> <p>On behalf of the Board, and the Executive Team, the Vice-Chair, J McM, paid tribute to the outgoing Chair, Professor PR. He shared the same views as many staff and other Members, that working alongside PR, we have always felt respected, supported and encouraged. Because of PR's personality and working style, everyone felt PR is as much of a friend, as well as a professional colleague.</p> <p>Your role as Chair laid out a very clear understanding that social housing is now not just about being a 'Landlord'. Housing is, without doubt, the most important intervention point for health, economic and environmental intervention that we have, and it's very important that it is invested in, which the outgoing Chair had been an exemplar in. Housing is also people centred, social housing is particularly so, as people can be much more vulnerable with</p>	

	<p>complex needs. People are also families, they form communities who can't live and work there without developing and growing communities, and that was a key feature encouraged by the outgoing Chair.</p> <p>JMcM remarked that PR also grasped, when others were not listening, the need to build, adapt and act in ways to protect and enhance our environment which had shone through and will be his legacy here, and within other organisations.</p> <p>Your Board leadership and this organisation's transformation has also become an exemplar, not just in NI, not just in UK, but elsewhere, and I particularly wanted to pay tribute and acknowledge that personally.</p> <p>PR thanked JMcM for his personal tribute, which he very much welcomed. He took a moment to recognise the collective and active participation of his colleagues who accompanied him on his journey, and sincerely thanked everyone, expressing gratitude and remarking it had been an absolute pleasure.</p> <p>Separate to the above, the outgoing Chair received a letter of thanks from Minister for Communities, Deirdre Hargey MLA. The correspondence thanked Professor Roberts for his dedication and service to the NIHE from 2012 when he was originally appointed Vice Chair, and particularly as Interim Chair from 2017, and then Chair from 2019. The content particularly recognised the leadership displayed by PR in facing some unprecedented events and next steps (Grenfell Disaster, Pandemic and Revitalisation), each of which have had a significant effect on the Housing Executive.</p>
<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>The next Board Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 14 December 2022 at 10am (Private Session at 9.30am).</p>

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance, the meeting concluded at 12.50pm.

CHAIR