

HousingExecutive

**MINUTES OF THE 730TH BOARD MEETING OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND
HOUSING EXECUTIVE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2023
AT 10AM IN NIHE SOUTH REGIONAL OFFICE, FREDERICK STREET,
NEWTOWNARDS, CO. DOWN**

PRESENT:

Mrs N Lappin	Chair
Mr J McMullan	Vice Chair
Mr D Wilson	Board Member
Mr C Welch	Board Member
Ald A Bresland	Board Member (via Zoom)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms G Long	Chief Executive
Mr D Moore	Director of Corporate Services
Mrs C McFarland	Director of Finance, Audit and Assurance
Mr P Isherwood	Director of Asset Management
Ms E Newberry	Interim Director of Regional Services
Mrs J Hawthorne	Director of Housing Services
Mr J Blease	Head of Corporate Communications
Mrs A Reilly	Head of Internal Audit
Mr E Jones	Risk and Governance Manager
Mr A Noble	Board and Committee Support Officer
Mr K Megaw	AD, Finance Development – item 3.1

APOLOGIES:

Ms P Leeson	Board Member
Mr J McCall	Board Member
Cllr C Elattar	Board Member
Ald A Grehan	Board Member
Cllr M Ruane	Board Member

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone present to the meeting, and in particular welcomed the fact that the Board meeting was being held

Housing Executive

	<p>in the South Region office, as it highlighted the Board's commitment to visiting regional offices and increasing its visibility.</p> <p>The Chair noted the above apologies and extended the Board's sincere condolences to Pauline Leeson on her recent family bereavement. The Chair thanked the Vice Chair for attending the funeral on behalf of the Board.</p> <p>The Chair extended a special note of thanks to Ald Bresland for attending at short notice and advised members that the meeting was being recorded via Zoom for the purposes of ensuring accuracy of the minute.</p>	
1.2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>The Chair reminded members of the need to declare any interests during the course of the meeting. None were raised by members.</p>	

<u>BOARD BUSINESS</u>		
		<u>Action</u>
2.1	<p><u>DRAFT MINUTES</u></p> <p>The Chair noted that minutes of the 729th Board Meeting held on Wednesday 22 February 2023 would be circulated to members, and advised that work was ongoing to ensure minutes were appropriately balanced to provide transparency of decision making within the context of often highly confidential and sensitive business transacted by the Board. The Chair welcomed members input going forward to arrive at an approval that strikes the appropriate balance.</p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
2.2	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u></p> <p>No matters arising were noted, subject to ratification of the draft minutes.</p>	
2.3	<p><u>ACTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD LIST</u></p> <p>The Chair noted that the Quarterly Organisational Assurance Statement (noted by ARAC on 14 March) was circulated virtually to Board Members on Friday 7 April 2023 for feedback and approval</p>	

Housing Executive

	<p>prior to submission to the Department. Mr. Wilson had provided feedback in relation to the information provided on the 'Business Planning' section of the statement. The Chair noted that officers would ensure that the feedback would be taken into consideration for future statements.</p> <p><u>APPROVED:</u> The Board approved the quarterly assurance statement for Q4 22/23, further to the draft submitted to members for virtual approval, subject to requested amendments to how business planning matters are reported. No other matters arising were noted by members or officers.</p>	
2.4	<p><u>VERBAL REPORT - CHAIR</u></p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
2.5	<p><u>BOARD REPORT - CHIEF EXECUTIVE</u></p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	

<u>STRATEGIC ITEMS</u>		
3.1	<p><u>PAPER:</u> Indicative Allocations 2023/24</p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
4.2	<p><u>PAPER:</u> Draft Business Plan 2023/24</p> <p><u>APPROVED.</u></p>	
4.3	<p><u>PAPER:</u> Draft Annual Governance Statement as at April 2023</p> <p><u>NOTED.</u></p>	
<u>APPROVAL PAPERS</u>		
5.1	<p><u>PAPER:</u> Finance Report for year 2022/23</p> <p><u>APPROVED.</u></p>	
5.2	<p><u>PAPER:</u> Performance Monitor for year 2022/23</p> <p><u>APPROVED.</u></p>	

Housing Executive

5.3	<u>PAPER:</u> Extension of Grant Funding for Tenancy Starter Packs <u>APPROVED.</u>	
5.4	<u>PAPER:</u> Provision of Intensive Tenancy Support in the South Down Area <u>APPROVED.</u>	
5.5	<u>PAPER:</u> Fundamental Review of Allocations - Progress Update <u>APPROVED.</u>	
5.8	<u>PAPER:</u> Research Programme 2023-2024 (Paper originally scheduled as item 5.8, members agreed to consider following item 5.5). <u>APPROVED.</u>	
5.6	<u>PAPER:</u> Maintenance & Improvements Works at South and East Belfast - Tender Award CT0123 <u>APPROVED.</u>	
5.7	<u>PAPER:</u> Comprehensive Mechanical and Electrical Servicing - Tender Award CT0107 <u>APPROVED.</u>	
<u>NOTING PAPER</u>		
6.	<u>PAPER:</u> Core Landlord Benchmarking Activities 2021/22 Mrs Hawthorne presented the paper to the Board for information on the results of the Annual Benchmarking of core Landlord activities, Members noted the report, observing the limitations of benchmarking and comparison with other organisations. <u>NOTED.</u>	
<u>COMMITTEE BUSINESS (UPDATES FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS)</u>		

Housing Executive

8.1	<u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Briefing from ARAC Committee Chair - Meeting held on Tuesday 14 March 2023	
8.2	<u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Briefing from Tenant and Customer Services Committee Chair – Meeting held on Monday 13 March 2023	
8.3	<u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Briefing from Resources and Performance Committee Chair – Meeting held on Friday 31 March 2023	
8.4	<u>VERBAL REPORT:</u> Briefing from Asset Management and Maintenance Committee Chair – Meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2023. <u>NOTED.</u>	
9.	<u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u> The Chair enquired if there was any other items from Members or Officers to be brought to the Board’s attention. The Chair recorded a special word of thanks on behalf of the Board to Ald Bresland for his service to the Housing Executive, and acknowledged his contribution over many years of service. <u>NOTED.</u>	
<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u>		
10.	The date of the next Board Meeting was confirmed as Monday 26 June 2023, to be held in the Housing Centre. The meeting concluded at approximately 13.50.	

CHAIR