

October 2017

The Board met on 19th October 2017 at Bridge Mills Business Centre in Kendal.

The meeting was attended by twelve Board Directors. The Board meeting was observed by a consultant from 'David Tolson Partnership' who was undertaking a review of Board effectiveness.

The Chairman was pleased to note that (following a government announcement) from 2020 rents could be increased by CPI + 1% for a period of 5 years and commented that SLH rents were still low compared to others.

The Chief Executive also referred to the rent certainty and commented that there would be a number of items arising from the forthcoming Green Paper on social housing. She highlighted that SLH still has two more years of rent reductions with inflation increasing costs. The Chief Executive referred to uncertainty regarding the HMRC VAT exemption for the Cumbria Housing & Property Services (CH&PS). She also informed the Board of changes made by the Tenants' Committee at the recent AGM including a new Chair in Stephen Bolton. The Board thanked Charles Howarth for his service as Tenants' Committee Chair for a number of years.

The Board approved;

- The final offer to be made to staff on changes to Terms & Conditions and pensions
- The Assets & Liabilities Register
- A range of governance actions including; appointing Keith Bevan as Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee, approved the admittance of Stephen Bolton as a resident shareholder member of the society, and agreed to re-arrange the date of next year's AGM to 27th September 2018 to allow attendance at the National Housing Federation Conference

The following reports were noted;

- CH&PS progress report
- Sector Risk Report
- Tenant Scrutiny Report (Customer Service)
- Self-assessment of compliance with the Regulatory Standards (Annual Tenant Report)
- Remuneration & Governance Committee notes