

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 22 March 2016
Report Subject	Appointment of Independent Director, NEW Homes
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Housing
Report Author	Chief Officer (Community & Enterprise)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To update Members and seek approval for the appointment of an Independent Director

RECOMMENDATIONS

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| (1) | Cabinet approves the appointment of Paul Mcgrady as an Independent Director of NEW Homes. |
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR
1.01	<p>The company was incorporated on 3 April 2014. It was agreed that the board would comprise 5 councillors, 1 officer and 2 external independent person as directors. Councillor Bernie Attridge is the chair of the board, and Cllrs Alex Aldridge and Tony Sharps have been in post as directors from the outset. At the time of writing this report nominations are currently awaited for two councillor vacancies which have arisen.</p> <p>Katie Clubb has been appointed as the council's officer director. Two independent Directors were recruited following an advert and interview process and Jan Lycett and Paul Humphreys were appointed. One has significant housing management, service transformation and change experience and the other senior level housing development experience.</p>
1.02	<p>The company has grown and developed its original business offers over the last two years and following an extensive review of the Business plan, agreed by its board and the council's cabinet earlier this year, the company is now making arrangements to develop and purchase homes for rent and purchase. To ensure robust and strong governance as the company moves into the next phase of its growth, a review of board member skills was undertaken. It was felt that the board needed to strengthen its skills in finance generally but development finance in particular and to add some additional housing development experience.</p>
1.03	<p>The company's articles of association provide for up to 3 independent board members, and the board can make an appointment of an additional independent member subject to prior written approval of the council's cabinet.</p>
1.04	<p>Adverts were placed and a recruitment panel established. An ideal candidate was found who can fully meet the additional skills required by the board. He has financial skills, having been a Section 151 officer for a Local Authority. He also has regeneration and housing development experience and has worked for councils and a Housing Association.</p>
1.05	<p>The Cabinet is asked to agree that Paul Mcgrady is appointed as an independent board member for NEW Homes.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>There are no direct resource implications for the council arising from this report.</p>

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	<p>NEW Homes board agreed to make this additional appointment.</p>

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	NEW Homes has a robust approach to risk management and the proposed additional board member appointment is to ensure that as NEW Homes enters a new area of its growth plan that it has all the necessary governance skills.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Clare Budden, Chief Officer, (Community & Enterprise) Telephone: 01352 703800 E-mail: Clare.Budden@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	NEW Homes - the councils wholly owned company.