



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 20 th September 2016
Report Subject	Appointment of Council Members as Directors, NEW Homes
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Housing
Report Author	Company Secretary - NEW Homes
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To update Members and seek approval for the appointment of 3 County Councillors as Directors of North East Wales Homes Limited.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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| (1) | Cabinet approves the appointment of Cllr Glyn Banks, Cllr Hilary McGuill and Cllr Nigel Steele Mortimer as Directors of North East Wales Homes Limited. |
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF THE DIRECTORS
1.01	<p>The company was incorporated on 3 April 2014. Under the rules of the company, namely the Articles of Association, the board of directors shall consist of up to 9 directors in total. This can be made up to 5 councillors, 1 council officer and up to 3 other directors who are independent of the council. Both Cllr Bernie Attridge, who is the Chair of the Board, and Cllr Tony Sharps have been in post as directors of the company from the outset.</p> <p>Katie Clubb has been appointed as the council's officer director. Following an advert and interview process Jan Lycett and Paul Humphreys were appointed as independent directors. One has significant housing management, service transformation and change experience and the other senior level housing development experience.</p>
1.02	<p>Since its inception, the company has grown and developed its original business 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 has now made arrangements to develop and purchase homes for rent and purchase. Following a review of board member skills, it was felt that the board needed to strengthen its skills in respect of finance generally, as well as development finance in the context of housing.</p>
1.03	<p>As a result, following prior council approval and recruitment process an additional independent director, Paul McGrady was appointed to the board. Paul McGrady has a wealth of experience in the control of finance as well as development finance and is currently a finance director of a housing association.</p>
1.04	<p>Following the resignation of 2 councillors citing their membership of the council's Planning Committee as a conflict of interest, and the subsequent resignation of another councillor for personal reasons, there are now 3 councillor board vacancies. It is important that the company maintains constructive comprehensive political input in moving forward.</p>
1.05	<p>Nominations from Councillors were sought and received and it was agreed that to ensure the greatest levels of propriety, that members on the Planning Committee and/or Scrutiny Committee would not be considered. Nominations were received by Cllr Glyn Banks, Cllr Hillary McGuill and Cllr Nigel Steele Mortimer. None of these councillors are members of any of these Committees.</p>
1.06	<p>The Cabinet is therefore asked to agree that Cllr Glyn Banks, Cllr Hillary McGuill and Cllr Nigel Steele Mortimer can be appointed as directors of NEW Homes subject to formal appointment by NEW Homes directors at a subsequent board meeting.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no direct resource implications for the council arising from this report.
3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Following Cabinet approval, the NEW Homes board should formally appoint the proposed 3 directors at the next board meeting.
4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	NEW Homes has a robust approach to risk management and the proposed additional board members appointment ensures continual political harmony.
5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.
6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None. Contact Officer : Tim Dillon (Company Secretary – NEW Homes) Telephone: 01352 702354 E-mail: tim.dillon@flintshire.gov.uk
7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	NEW Homes - the councils wholly owned company North East Wales Homes Limited.