



**The East Midlands Regional Committee** helps set the strategic direction for the National Housing Federation in the East Midlands, acting as the unified voice and focus for members in the region.

The committee has a vital role in influencing the Federation's national lobbying and campaigning work, ensuring it takes account of the particular views of associations throughout the region. It is also responsible for scrutinising the Federation's Board and putting forward ideas for the Federation's business plan.

Membership is diverse and drawn from a wide cross section of associations, including Chief Executives, Board Members and Senior Directors.

# East Midlands Regional Committee 2012



**Lindsey Williams (Chair)** is Chief Executive of **Futures Housing Group**, established in November 2007 to bring together Amber Valley Housing and Daventry and District Housing. Lindsey has worked in housing since 1982. She was previously Chief Executive of Amber Valley housing for five years and, prior to that, a Director of Housing and Operations at Homezone, Droitwich Spa and Rural Housing Associations.

Lindsey is member of the Chartered Institute of Housing. She was nominated to the National Council of the National Housing Federation in 2004 and also became a Board Member of the Federation in 2007.

Lindsey is also a governor at Bulwell Academy which caters for over 11 year olds, and is a member of PlaceShapers, a nationwide lobbying group of housing associations.



**Rosemarie Anderson** has been Chief Executive of **Rockingham Forest Housing Association**, since January 2002. She has worked in social housing for almost 20 years, including local authority and student housing.

Rockingham Forest Housing Association is a small, community-based association operating across Northamptonshire, managing a range of properties including shared ownership properties and market rented properties.

Between 1998 and 2001 Rosemarie worked for the National Housing Federation as the Regional Officer for the East Midlands. This was a promotional, representational and campaigning role. Rosemarie is also currently a member of the National Housing Federation's National Small Housing Association Group.



**Mike Andrews** is Chief Executive of **Nottingham Community Housing Association**. Nottingham Community Housing Association (NCHA) works across 27 local authority areas within the East Midlands and manages over 8,000 properties. It also provides care and support for over 1,500 vulnerable adults through accommodation-based projects and floating support contracts. NCHA jointly lead the Blue Skies Consortium with the Longhurst Group which has secured over £350m of investment in new housing development over the past three years.

Mike has worked for NCHA since 1988, first as Housing Director and then as Chief Executive since 2007. He has worked in housing for over 35 years, for housing associations, local authorities and New Town Development Corporations. Mike is currently Chair of the Nottingham Strategic Housing Partnership Board.



**Matt Cooney** is Chief Executive of **LHA-ASRA Group Ltd**, which was formed in November 2005 and has over 13,000 homes in management across the East Midlands, Greater London and the South East, providing a range of services including homes for rent, shared ownership, home care, supported housing assistance and 24-hour contact centre.

Matt started his career in the mid 1980's as a receptionist at Manchester City Council's Moss Side Area Housing Office and has worked in senior posts in local government including Strategic Director of housing at Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. Prior to joining LHA-ASRA in 2010, he was Chief Executive of Solihull Community Housing and helped it become the first social landlord in the West Midlands to achieve three stars in 2008. Matt is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Housing.



**Julie Doyle** is Managing Director of **Spire Homes** and Deputy Chief Executive of **Longhurst Group**, having joined the Group in April 1995. Julie plays a key strategic role in its development. Between 1995 and 2001 she tendered for housing management services and directed the housing contract between Longhurst Housing Association and East Northamptonshire Council. This resulted in a successful Large Scale Voluntary Transfer, creating East Northamptonshire Housing in 2001. The name changed to Spire Homes in January 2005 and in November 2009 it completed a transfer of Rutland County Council housing stock after successfully managing them since 2006.

Julie acts as Chair of the Northamptonshire Local Strategic Partnership called 'Enable' and is committed to raising funds for Homeless International by taking part in biennial treks across various mountainous and forest regions of Africa.

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**Chan Kataria is Group Chief Executive of East Midlands Housing Group**, a large regional housing association group, managing over 17,000 homes. He was Chair of the Federation's East Midlands Regional Committee for four years and has also been a member of the former National Council and Regional Housing Board.

East Midlands Housing Group consists of a number of organisations, including a large traditional housing association, two stock transfers, BME organisation and a rural specialist arm. It is a significant developing association and also HomeBuy Agent for the East Midlands. At its last full inspection the Group was awarded a two star rating for customer service by the Audit Commission. Chan believes housing associations should be about much more than bricks and mortar and are ideally placed to make a real difference to the lives of its customers and the communities in which they live.



**Jackie King Owen is Executive Director of Enable Housing Association**, which is a specialist housing association offering housing and care-related services. Enable Housing Association caters for 350 adults with learning difficulties living in Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire.

Jackie has worked in the East Midlands region since 1977, comprising 11 years in Leicester City before moving to Derbyshire in 1988. She has served as a member of the National Supported Housing Committee and is Chair of the Supported Housing Group in the East Midlands.

Jackie has been a member of the East Midlands Regional Committee for several years and was re-elected in 2010.



**Peter McCormack is Chief Executive of Derwent Living**. Formed in 1964 Derwent Living manages more than 11,000 properties in the Midlands and in South Yorkshire.

Derwent Living's property portfolio includes affordable housing, student living and easy living homes to rent or buy. It also includes retirement living and specialist housing.

Peter has 30 years experience in a range of sectors including local government, roles within housing and 15 years with housing associations. He started out in local government in the 1970s, working for Newcastle City Council. Peter later took up roles in finance and housing with London local authorities and became Chief Executive of Derwent Living in March 2008.



**Richard Renwick MBE has been Chief Executive of Tuntum Housing Association**, since 1994. Born in Grenada in the West Indies, Richard has been living in the UK since the early 1970s. In previous roles Richard has been a freelance Management Consultant, a regulator with the Housing Corporation and a Project Development Officer in the Ethnic Minorities Unit at what was Greater London Council.

Richard's held a number of positions within the voluntary housing sector including Chair of the Federation of Black Housing Organisations, Chair of the Nottinghamshire Social Housing Forum and Chair of Labo Housing Association. He was also a founder member of PATH (National) the largest positive action organisation in the UK and Ujima Housing Association. In 2005 Richard was awarded an MBE for his services to social housing and the Caribbean community in the East Midlands.



**Gerald Taylor is Chief Executive of Acclaim Housing Group**. The group was established in 2007 and includes Dales Housing and Seven Locks Housing who operate in Derbyshire and Leicestershire respectively.

Gerald has worked in housing for over 35 years for both local authorities and housing associations. His particular interest is in rural housing and ensuring the sustainability of small communities and he believes passionately that housing associations have a key role to play in making sure important rural services such as schools continue to thrive by providing much needed affordable homes.

As well as serving on the East Midlands Regional Committee, he is a member of both the Chartered Institute of Housing and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

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**Bob Walder is Group Chief Executive and Company Secretary for the Longhurst Group.** Bob joined Longhurst in 1989 following a career in the housing association sector which began in 1977 in Moss Side, Manchester. Bob also spent five years in the Potteries where he was Development Manager and Deputy Chief Executive of an association. Having graduated from Bristol University then qualifying for membership of the CIH he went on to gain valuable experience in all aspects of housing association work. He has been a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Housing since 1990.

Bob was Chairman of the National Housing Federation in the East Midlands for a second time from 2001 to 2005 and was Chairman of the East Midlands Regional Housing Board until it was discontinued in 2010. Bob is also a keen supporter of Homeless International.



**David Willis is Chief Executive of Wellingborough Homes.** Dave has worked in housing for almost 30 years having graduated with a housing degree. He has fulfilled a variety of roles in both local government and the housing association sector, and was previously Deputy Chief Executive at Midsummer Housing Association in Milton Keynes.

As well as being a member of the East Midlands Regional Committee, Dave is currently also a member of the Wellingborough Partnership and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Housing. Dave was previously Chair of the National Housing Federation's Home Ownership Advisory Panel. On a personal note, Dave lives in Northamptonshire but is a keen supporter of Wolverhampton Wanderers.



**The East Midlands regional committee comprises a number of members from Federation member organisations.** Each member is elected for a three-year term and is permitted to sit for a maximum of three terms. A provision exists to co-opt. Committees elect their own chairs and are serviced by the National Housing Federation officers.

The role of the committee is to:

- be the unified voice and focus for Federation members across the region
- give advice and guidance to officers of the Federation on policy and operational matters
- act as the channel for communication and consultation between the Federation and its members in the region
- uphold and promote the work and values of the Federation.

## Why get involved?

The Federation relies on the involvement of its members to make it a success. The East Midlands regional committee plays a vital role in helping to promote and represent members' interests effectively. Membership of the committee is diverse and is drawn from a wide cross-section of associations, including chief executives, board members and senior directors, from across the region. The committee feeds into the development of the Federation's national and regional business plans and engages with the national board via the regional chairs group.

The regional committee is an ideal opportunity to keep up to date with developments in the sector and influence your business operating environment during this time of great change in the sector. Members hear directly from the HCA, the sector regulator and new Local Enterprise Partnerships as well as key decision makers such as County Councils and Local Authorities, who are taking a more pivotal role as the government's Localism agenda develops. Committee members are in an excellent position to feed into influential decision making strategies, such as housing association engagement with Local Investment Plans, and to share market intelligence, experiences and best practice with senior colleagues.

## Find out more

Contact Leah Jackson, office administrator, on 0117 929 7388 or email [leah.jackson@housing.org.uk](mailto:leah.jackson@housing.org.uk).