



City of Westminster

Shareholder Committee

Meeting or Decision Maker:	Shareholder Committee
Date:	6 December 2021
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Appointment of Director
Wards Affected:	All
Company Affected:	Westminster Builds - Formally: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Westminster Housing Investments Ltd - 11413846• Westminster Housing Developments Ltd - 11417174
City for All/Policy Context:	Good governance of council-owned companies
Key Decision:	No
Report of:	Debbie Jackson, Executive Director of Growth, Planning and Housing

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Following the resignation of the former Managing Director of Westminster Builds there is a vacancy on the Board of the company which requires filling.
- 1.2 The Shareholder Committee holds delegated authority to act on behalf of the Council for a number of key decisions, including the nominations of Directors to be appointed to the Board of a subsidiary.
- 1.3 The new appointee will become a regular Board member, not the Managing Director. The role of Managing Director will be left vacant pending a further resolution of the Shareholder Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that:
 - Neil Wightman, Director of Housing at Westminster City Council is appointed as a Board Member of Westminster Builds (in the form of the two companies noted above), subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006.
 - The secretary of the Company is instructed to make the necessary entries in the statutory books of the Company and to make the necessary filings at Companies House.

3. Reasons for Decision

- 3.1 The nominee's knowledge of the housing sector and their role in managing the council's housing stock will enhance the running of the company, particularly given that many of the properties developed by Westminster Builds will call within the council's affordable housing portfolio.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 None – Directors are not remunerated or compensated for undertaking these roles.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The authority for the Shareholder Committee to make appointments to the boards of the council's wholly owned companies was delegated by decision of Cabinet on 12 July 2021. Training will be provided to ensure conflicts of interest are understood and managed appropriately as well as the individual appointed is able to act in line with the responsibilities conferred on them under the Companies Act 2006.

6. Carbon Impact

- 6.1 There are no direct carbon implications from the appointment of an existing council employee to the Board of Westminster Builds.