

# **AGM 2025**

## **ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This year there is one existing and four new Board members standing for election to the Board.

### 2. BOARD MEMBER STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

- 2.1 As per Rule 39.1, the two Members standing down by rotation are:
  - James Rowney
  - Margaret Whoriskey
- 2.2 The members have declared their willingness to serve again and in accordance with Rule 40.1 do not require to be formally nominated. Their profiles are detailed below for information.

## **James Rowney**

James has been a Board Member since 2017 and sits on the APR Committee.

James has recently retired as Head of Solutions at the Royal Bank of Scotland. His team provided specialist advice to corporate and commercial customers at critical times. He has a keen interest in housing and has been involved in many aspects of it over a number of years.



# **Margaret Whoriskey**

Margaret has been a Board Member since 2018 and currently sits on the APR Committee.

Margaret Whoriskey is Head of Innovation for Care and Wellbeing at the Digital Health and Care Innovation Centre (DHI), University of Strathclyde. With over 20 years' experience in strategic roles within the Scottish Government and NHS Fife, she has led major change programmes across health and social care.



Until January 2024, Margaret directed Scotland's national Technology Enabled Care (TEC) Programme, working across NHS, local government, housing, and third sector partners to scale digital solutions that improve citizen access and outcomes. She also champions Digital Inclusion and leads Digital Lifelines Scotland, supporting people at risk of drug harm.

Margaret is also a Trustee of ENABLE Scotland. Within DHI, she drives innovation in integrated care, social care, and housing through digital technologies.



### 3. BOARD MEMBERS SEEKING ELECTION FOR THE FIRST TIME

3.1 Robin Backlock, Nicola Cooper and Chris Elliott were co-opted to the Board in May 2025, and Andrew Watson was co-opted to the Board in August 2025: following a successful recruitment process. All four members have been nominated for election to Hanover Board at the AGM and have declared their willingness to serve.

#### **Robin Blacklock**

Robin has been a co-opted Member since 22 May 2025.

Robin is a Chartered Surveyor with broad commercial experience, specialising over the past decade in Scotland's Build to Rent sector. He runs his own consultancy practice with a focus on housing investment and development and founded More Homes More Quickly in response to the Housing (Scotland) Bill to support a more investable approach to rent control. Robin brings commercial insight

and a strong understanding of the private rented sector to the Board.

# Nicola Cooper

Nicola has been a co-opted Member since 22 May 2025.

Nicola has a uniquely interdisciplinary skill set, shaped by over 20 years in leadership roles across social care and the creative sector, with a particular interest in designing for ageing populations. She has led award-winning programmes that embed prevention and self-management into care, shape ethical approaches to AI and data, and build digital capability through inclusive and sustainable innovation.



#### **Chris Elliott**

Chris has been a co-opted Member since 22 May 2025.

Chris is a retired transformation and procurement consultant specialising in housing and government sectors. He volunteers for a number of charities who support elderly and vulnerable people. Chris is also a co-opted member of a police fire and crime panel.





## **Andrew Watson**

Andrew has been a co-opted Member since 21 August 2025.

Andrew has had a long-standing involvement with social housing in Scotland, having previously been chair of Berwickshire Housing Association and, more recently, Deputy Chair of the Scottish Housing Regulator. With a background in banking and finance, he has many years' experience advising both public and private sector clients at a senior level on commercial and strategic matters. He is also on the Commercial and strategic matters.



level on commercial and strategic matters. He is also on the Court of Queen Margaret University and a Director of Dundee Student Villages.