

## TRUST HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

### Minute of the Board Meeting held on Thursday 27 January 2022 at 15:00 by Microsoft Teams call

#### PRESENT:

#### Board Members

Kyle Ruparelia  
Gordon Laurie  
Dr Norval Bryson  
David Knight  
Ian Gunning

John Burke  
Sr Jenny Lindsay  
Wendy Wilkinson  
Paul McFarlane  
Karen Cawte

#### Officers in Attendance

Rhona McLeod, Chief Executive  
Zoe Purdie, Director of Finance & People  
Neil Ferguson, Director of Business Development & Digital  
Gail Gourlay, Director of Customer Experience  
Jackie McIntosh, Director of Assets & Sustainability  
Mary Strathearn, PA/Company Secretary

#### JOHN BURKE IN THE CHAIR

Agenda Item	Detail
1.	<b>Chair's opening remarks</b>
1.1	John Burke, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those attending for accommodating this special board meeting. He noted the private items today were item 5 which related to the budget and rent consultation and item 6 which was on the bLEND financing update. He added that the final report for consideration today was item 7 on delegated authority which details plans to strengthen our procedural arrangements in the finance team.
2	<b>CEO's Opening Remarks</b>
2.1	Rhona McLeod, Chief Executive, shared that we were generally in a better position with COVID. Thankfully people appear not to be getting as ill with the virus compared to this time last year. We are in a good position in relation to our tenants and we have 17 cases of staff testing positive for COVID which are spread across 8 developments. Rather concerning, however, is that we have 2 staff members who are suffering from long COVID. We remain unaware how big a problem this will be going forward.
2.2	We currently have 3 COVID outbreak clusters at Thornliebank, St Margaret's Court Greenock, and Girvan where 7 staff members have tested positive. Rhona was pleased to report that due to our strong infection control measures, no tenants at Girvan have contracted COVID. The Health Protection team have indicated they believe that the Girvan COVID outbreak was from community and not spread from within the development. There has obviously been a pressure point at Girvan as we have had to find staff cover. As the Board are aware, there is also ongoing pressure to recruit staff in care and support roles.
2.3	Rhona advised that we will be undertaking work to update the Trust brand. As part of implementation of iTrust and our Time Is Now strategy we have done some work to refresh our in-house branding materials but we have not tackled the 'corporate' Trust and Wishaw brands. We plan to bring a proposal to the Board in March and will be asking some Board members to participate in a workshop with our consultants Brand Insiders.

Agenda Item	Detail
3.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>
3.1	<p>Sister Jenny Lindsay declared an interest in item 5 which details the proposals for the tenant rent increases.</p> <p>All staff present on the call also declared an interest in item 5 as this contained details of the staff pay award.</p>
4.	<b>Apologies</b>
4.1	Board Members Nicky McLaughlin and Ali Ross submitted their apologies.
5.	<b>Trust Budget and Rent Consultation Update 2022/23 – <i>please see private minutes</i></b>
6.	<b>bLEND Financing Update – <i>please see private minutes</i></b>
7.	<b>Delegated Authority Update</b>
7.1	Zoe commented that the report is self-explanatory and was willing to take any questions. The Board were happy to agree to the proposals contained within the report.
7.2	<b>Decision: Approved the attached Financial Regulation FR06 Delegated Authority V009 including Appendix 1.</b>
8.	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
8.1	Thursday 24 February 2021 (by Microsoft Teams call).