

# East Herts Council Non-Key Decision Report

**Date:** 20 November 2024

**Report by:** Helen Standen Chief Executive Officer

**Report title:** Change of Governance arrangements  
(Hertfordshire Building Control)

**Ward(s) affected:** None

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## Summary

- East Hertfordshire District Council is one of 8 Hertfordshire local authorities who wholly own Hertfordshire Building Control Ltd. From time to time the governance arrangements need to be reviewed and appropriate recommendations made.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION:

**(A) Helen Standen - CEO (Shareholder Representative) is replaced by James Ellis - Head of legal and Democratic Services who will take over the Shareholder Representative role from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025.**

### 1.0 Proposal(s)

1.1 To appoint James Ellis as Shareholder Representative on behalf of East Hertfordshire District Council to Hertfordshire Building Control Ltd.

### 2.0 Background

2.1 East Hertfordshire District Council (EHDC) entered into a then 7 partner arrangement to provide building control services

across the county in 2016.

- 2.2 In 2019 an 8<sup>th</sup> authority (Dacorum Borough Council) joined the company.
- 2.3 There is a requirement within the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) and Articles of Association that each partner nominates a Shareholder Representative and a Director.
- 2.4 Helen Standen has fulfilled the role of Shareholder on behalf of EHDC since January 2023 and prior to that she was the nominated Director on behalf of EHDC, a role she held since the inception of the company in 2016.

### **3.0 Reason(s)**

- 3.1 Helen Standen was recently appointed Interim Chief Executive for East Herts District Council (September 2024).
- 3.2 In order to better utilise officer time and increase knowledge and skills, it is proposed that Helen Standen is replaced as the Shareholder Representative by James Ellis.
- 3.3 The proposal will ensure the appropriate level of support can continue to be given to HBC and knowledge and understanding is retained within EHDC.

### **4.0 Options**

- 4.1 The Council, under the IAA and Shareholder Agreement/Articles of Association, each partner authority must assign the role of Shareholder Representative and Director of HBC.
- 4.2 EHDC can choose who it nominates. Those nominated are expected to attend meetings as required and to represent the

interests of the council and the company.

## **5.0 Risks**

5.1 There are no risks associated with the proposal.

## **6.0 Implications/Consultations**

### **Community Safety**

No

### **Data Protection**

No

### **Equalities**

No

### **Environmental Sustainability**

No

### **Financial**

No financial implications

### **Health and Safety**

No

### **Human Resources**

No

### **Human Rights**

No

### **Legal**

No

## **Specific Wards**

No

## **7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material**

7.1 None

### **Contact Member**

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