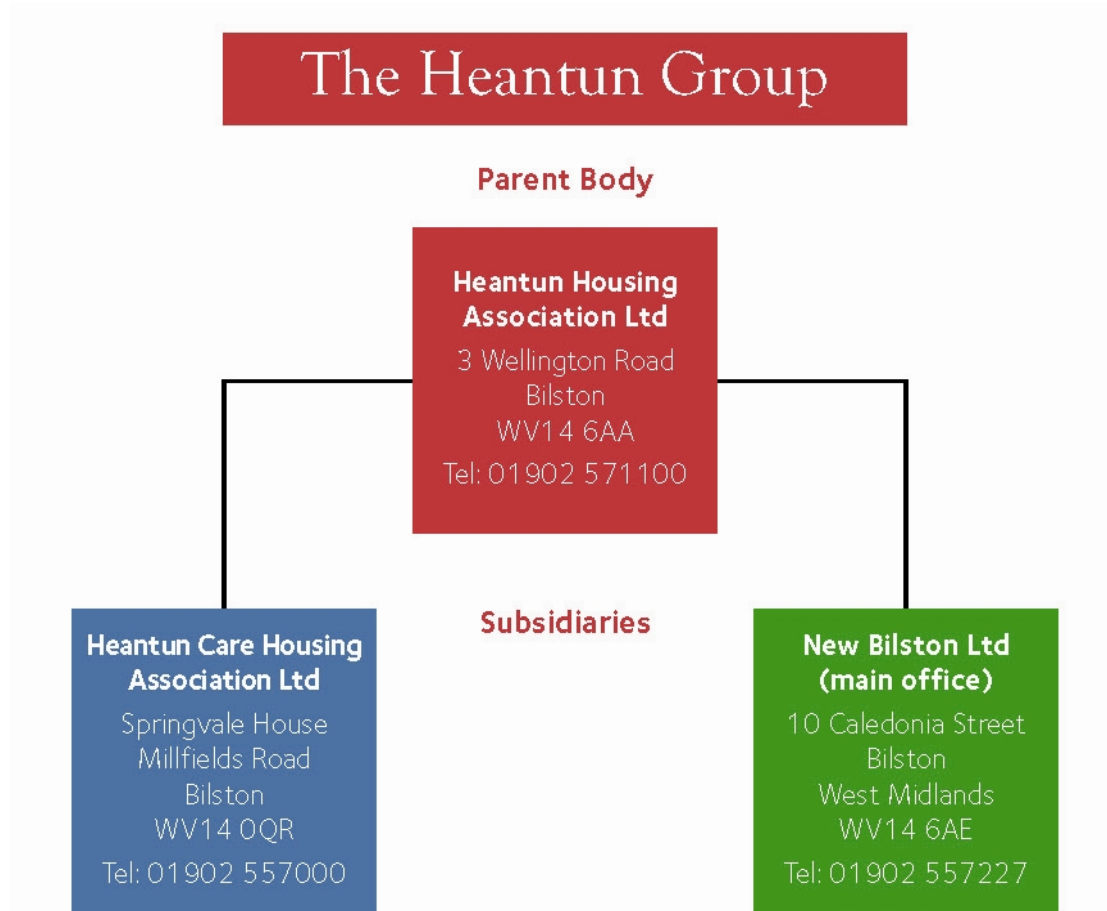


Heantun Group Governance

The Group

The Heantun group consists of 3 separate Housing Associations:



Each Association is governed by a Board that is elected by the Shareholders who have a nominal £1 share but receive no dividends or profits from the Association.

Heantun Housing Association Limited

Heantun Housing Association Limited is the parent body and controls shareholding membership of its subsidiaries.

Heantun Housing Association Limited has charitable status and received public funds and its activities are regulated by the Tenant Services Authority (TSA).

Staff and Services

The Board of each Association appoints its staff to carry out the business decided by the Board and to provide services to residents and service users.

In 2010 the Group employed over 300 staff and had a turnover in excess of £13 million and assets of £60 million.

The Board

Election to the Board and Shareholders

Board Members are elected by the Shareholders at the Annual General Meeting in September or are co-opted by the Board. Each year a third of the Board retires and any Shareholder can stand for election.

Shareholders – Anyone can apply to the Board to be Shareholder and have voting rights. Applicants need to pay £1 (non refundable) and fill in a form setting out their interest.

Responsibilities of Board Members

Board Members make the key decisions and ensure the financial viability of the Association.

They must:

- support the overall aims of Heantun
- declare and not participate in any matter in which they have an interest
- read and consider reports and recommendations
- attend meetings (about 1 a month)
- sign up to the terms set out in the letter of appointment

Skills and Competencies of Members of the Board

Although some specialist skills are needed and experience is valuable the Board

- receives advice
- is provided with training
- is supported by officers with specialist knowledge

Most important is

- a willingness to be part of the Team that makes the key decisions
- commonsense
- preparedness to devote time and thought to our objectives

The current members of the Board are:-

Mr. P Pritchard (Chair)	Retired Solicitor
Mr. H Foster	Retired Chief Executive, Health Authority
Mr. S Bloomer	Finance Director, Health Trust
Ms J Talbot	Senior Manager, Policy and Performance (Social Care)
Ms H Wilkes	Retired Accountant
Mr A Winning	Finance Consultant
Ms A Lawson	Regeneration Manager, Director of Housing Quality Network

YOUR VIEWS

Introduction

Attracting and retaining Members with specialist skills and experience, business knowledge, and an understanding of the issues that are important to residents and service users is essential.

The Board makes the key decisions which manage risk, control performance and ensure financial viability and ensures that tenant and service user aspirations are achieved.

Our policy for Board membership reflects the diversity of the community we serve. We seek to have Members with both

- a broad range of skills and commonsense
- a broad range of background and experience

Recruiting New Members

We are seeking

- to fill the **2 vacancies for resident Board Members** on the Board
- to recruit **2 additional new Members** with skills and experience in housing and/or support services
- to implement an expenses plus modest remuneration arrangements for Members of the Board

to support current and future Members to have the skills and training to play an effective role.

CONSULTATION

The views of residents and service users and stakeholders of the Association are needed to help the Board to make the right decisions.

We are therefore consulting with you on the following:

- 1. The terms of appointment of Members of the Board**
- 2. How we should ensure that the Board reflects the interests and views of residents and service users**

Board Member Terms of Appointment

From September 2010 the Board proposes that Members

- Should be appointed for a three year term
- Should be appointed to have a special responsibility for an aspect of our business
- Should be expected to attend at least 8 meetings a year and to read reports and contribute at meetings
- Should support the key decisions made by the Board

As part of the Terms of Appointment Board Members will

- Be paid reasonable expenses including travel and childcare
- £50 per meeting attended (which will be taxable/offset against benefits)
- Liable to dismissal by the Board if they are unable to attend meetings

Please let us know whether you think this will support good governance and whether you think payment is a good idea.

Recruitment of Residents to the Board

The Board proposes

That from 2010/11 Members who are residents or service users of Heantun can be nominated by a constituted forum of the Association, e.g.

- Residents Groups
- Older Persons Forum
- Learning Disability Forum

and should be elected at the Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting to be held in March 2011.

Please let us know if you think this way of resident representation will strengthen the Board.

As a resident of Heantun you are eligible to become a Shareholder and stand for election to the Board.

Please let us now if you would be interested in becoming a Shareholder.

Recruitment of Other Board Members

You may know someone who you feel would add to the strength of the Board or represent your interests.

Please let us know if there is someone you wish to nominate and why. Are they prepared to serve?

Please let us have your answers to the questions set out above. You can do this by

- speaking to a member of staff
- emailing diana.jackson@heantun.co.uk
- writing to the Chairman Mr Patrick Pritchard
c/o Heantun Housing Association Limited
3 Wellington Road
Bilston
West Midlands
WV14 6AA

Please let us have your views no later than 31st July 2010