Management Committee Update

Issue 63 **August & September 2026**

Orkney Housing Association is governed by a voluntary Management Committee elected at our AGM. The Committee's role is to set strategy and monitor our performance.

Day to day operational management is carried out by the Leadership Team, and services delivered by our excellent staff team.

Some of the Committee's main functions include: approving budgets, reviewing policies, diligent financial management, major decision making, and organisational direction and good governance to ensure statutory and regulatory requirements are met.

We send out an update like this after each formal Management Committee meeting (usually 6 per year).

Members present:

26 August 2026
- Brian Kynoch
- David Bertram
- John Foster
- Mary Laird
- Suzanne Lawrence
- Fiona Lettice
- Ian McKay
- Bruce Pilkington
- John White
- John Rodwell

08 September 2026
- Brian Kynoch
- David Bertram
- John Foster
- Mary Laird
- Suzanne Lawrence
- Fiona Lettice
- Bruce Pilkington
- John Rodwell

This report provides an update on the meetings held in August to consider and approve the Report & Financial Statements and Annual Assurance Statement, together with a brief meeting convened following the September AGM to appoint office bearers and confirm membership of the sub-committees.



Our Management Committee

Top: Brian Kynoch, Fiona Lettice, John White, John Rodwell, Suzanne Lawrence

Bottom: Bruce Pilkington, Mervyn Sandison, John Foster, Mary Laird, David Bertram, Ian McKay

ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

At the first meeting following the AGM, we elect a Chair and Vice Chair.

- Brian Kynoch was re-elected as Chair and Fiona Lettice as Vice Chair of the Management Committee.
- John White remains Chair of the Audit & Risk Management Sub-Committee.
- John Rodwell was elected as Chair of Performance & Resources Sub-Committee

Membership of the sub-committees and two working parties were also agreed. Mhairi Hughes continues in the role of Company Secretary.

2026 Business Planning Programme

OHA's current 3-year Business Plan covers 2025-28.

Members considered and agreed the suggested planning process and timetable for the production of updated appendices for 2027/28 as part of business planning.



GOVERNANCE MATTERS

Annual Assurance Statement (AAS)

This is the means by which our Management Committee provide assurance to the Scottish Housing Regulator on the Association's performance. Continuous assessment has been ensured by having this as a standing item on every agenda.

Having fully considered the information presented and reviewed the comprehensive evidence bank, members were satisfied that they had sufficient assurance to make an informed decision on the content of the 2026 Annual Assurance Statement (AAS), which was subsequently approved. The Statement confirms the Association's compliance with all relevant Regulatory Requirements and Standards and has been published on the Association's website.
https://www.ohal.org.uk/docs/id481-2026%20AAS%20unsigned.pd

Performance & Resources Sub-Committee

Members noted that at the end of Quarter 1, 15 out of 18 KPIs are being met. Q1 finances showed turnover was slightly above budget but operating costs were below budget. Care & Repair reported a busy quarter.

A Tenant Safety Paper provided an overview on progress with compliance regarding Electrical Safety, Fire Safety and Damp and Mould.

Audit & Risk Management Sub-Committee

Members received a number of updates which provided assurance that issues of importance are being monitored and progressed appropriately.

These included: Annual Review of External Audit, 3-month Risk Management Report, Fraud Risk Register, Governance Report and Entitlements, Payments and Benefits Annual Report.

Report & Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

The Association's auditor informed members that the accounts had been thoroughly scrutinsed by members at the Audit & Risk Management Sub-Committee. No recommendations for management had been identified and two positive, clean audits were reported. Highlights from the Report showed a very good, strong performance over the year. Members approved the Report and Financial Statements for onward submission to the AGM where they were subsequently approved.

A copy of the Annual Accounts 2025-26 can be found on the website:
https://www.ohal.org.uk/docs/id487-OHA%20Annual%20Accounts%202025-26.pdf