

# RBH'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



**CHAIR**



**NON-EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**

**GUY** has worked as a chartered accountant in the charity, education and housing sectors for over 30 years in a variety of leadership and financial management roles. He is the Director of Finance & Resources at Connect Housing. They are a small housing association (3,800 homes) with a mixture of general needs, supported housing and homelessness provision and a bit of everything in between, including building some new homes. The common thread throughout his career has been a desire to make sure that each organisation is run in the best possible way in order to deliver the best possible outcomes for the people that those organisations serve. Guy joined the RBH Board in September 2017, chairs the Audit Committee and is a member of the Growth Committee.

**ALISON** qualified as a Chartered Accountant with Ernst and Young Manchester before pursuing a career as a Finance Director in property and development. During this time she held key roles with UNITE plc (student accommodation developer and operator) and with Manchester Airport Group. Alison then went on to spend 6 years in the role of Deputy Chief Executive with Rathbone a UK wide charity supporting disadvantaged young people to develop their employment and life skills through education. For the last 4 years she has been Group Finance Director at Your Housing Group, a large RP based in Warrington.

She has held a number of Non Executive roles in education and housing and was a founder member of the Greater Manchester LEP. She is currently NED at North West Boroughs Healthcare, a local Foundation Trust that specialises in Mental and Community health.

Alison believes passionately in the need for social housing, community development and regeneration and is excited to bring her skills to the role of Chair for RBH. She is married with three grown up sons and lives in Warrington.

# NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**RUTH** works as an Assistant Director in Children's Services for Barnardo's, one of the oldest and largest UK children's charities. She holds lead officer responsibilities for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Complaints. Her background is in youth and community work in the third sector where she has 25 years' post graduate experience of working with and leading teams and partnerships in Greater Manchester. Ruth started her involvement in community work as a volunteer aged 13 in a local project where the members were also involved in the running of activity. She went on to work there as a paid member of staff before continuing her career in the voluntary sector in a variety of areas fields including supported accommodation, early intervention, mental health, adoption and family support. Ruth has held regulated roles including the Chair of Adoption, Fostering and Permanence Panels and has also sat on Safeguarding Boards and Domestic Homicide Review Panels within multi- sector safeguarding groups. She sits as a Peer Inspector within Barnardo's and is a school governor in Stockport.

Ruth is particularly passionate about creating the conditions for people's voices to be heard so that they can achieve their potential and influence service provision and development. Above all, Ruth is committed to working with and for the communities in Greater Manchester in the pursuit of better outcomes for all. Ruth lives in Greater Manchester with her son.

# NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**PAUL** is a social research analyst at a digital agency in the Northern Quarter of Manchester. He previously worked as a Research Fellow at a number of North West universities. He is a sociologist who specialises in the understanding of risk management, health policy and the production of social value.

Over the course of his career he has development a range of research skills, both qualitative and quantitative. Paul has a PhD from the University of Salford and a postgraduate qualification in Social Research Methods and Statistics from the University of Manchester. Paul is chair of the HR and Governance Committee and also deputy Board chair.

## NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**NEIL** is an economist and is at present the Senior Fellow for the Global Advancement of Community Wealth Building at the USA based think tank the Democracy Collaborative.

He is also a Strategic Adviser to the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) - the UK national organisation for local economies, where he was previously the Chief Executive for 18 years. He is also at present seconded into the Scottish Government as an adviser within the economic development directorate.

This is Neil's first NED role, but has previously been on the board of numerous organisations, including Chair of the board of governors at a primary school. He has also sat on a number of bodies, including the Greater Manchester Independent Inequalities Commission and has advised and worked in partnerships with political administrations from across the UK, Europe and Australasia.

Neil has spent his working career committed to developing local economies and addressing poverty and injustices, and believes passionately in the power of collaboration, cooperation and the advancement of democratic ownership including cooperatives and mutuals. He is married with 3 children and lives in Greater Manchester.



## NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**MIKE** is a property professional and chartered surveyor with over 30 years of experience in both the public and private sector. He has been the Property Director for Brookhouse Group since 2004, and is a Director of two joint ventures in nearby Oldham. He has been a participant in the Mayor's Town Centre Challenge project in Leigh and Royton.

He has worked closely with a diverse range of stakeholders on major project delivery across the north west of England, including local authorities and Homes England - including the development of major mixed-use regeneration schemes on brownfield sites.

Mike is married with three grown-up children and lives locally in Rochdale. He has been an RBH Non-executive Director since September 2019.

