BOARD MEETING

23 September 2026, at 1.30 pm
Doubletree by Hilton Edinburgh City, 34 Bread St, Edinburgh EH3 9AF

MINUTES

Attendance

Board Members In Attendance:	Paul Edie (Chair) Amanda Britain (Vice Chair) Emma Garry Frances Wood Graeme Russell Stephen Oswald Steve Dungworth Gillian Merrett Susan Grundy
Officers In Attendance:	Debbie Collins, Chief Executive Officer Tracey Howatt, Chief Operating Officer Drew Moore, Director of Assets Barry Allan, Director of Finance and Business Services Nikki Ritchie, Director of People and Digital Rikki Young, Head of Assurance & Business Planning Mariana Eaton (Minutes)

ITEM	NOTE
1.	**Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair**
	Chair The Company Secretary sought nominations for the position of Chair. Graeme Russell nominated Paul Edie; this was seconded by Amanda. No other nominations were received. Paul Edie accepted the position and took over as Chair of the meeting. Vice-Chair The Chair sought nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Frances Wood nominated Amanda Britain; this was seconded by Stephen Oswald. No other nominations were received. Amanda Britain accepted the position of Vice-Chair.

<table>
<tr><td>2.</td><td>Apologies for Absence</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Angus MacRae, Brian McLaren, Derek Breingan and Lynn Brown</td></tr>
<tr><td>3.</td><td>Declaration of Interest</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>There were no declarations of interest.</td></tr>
<tr><td>4.</td><td>Minutes</td></tr>
<tr><td>4.1</td><td>Confidential: Redacted</td></tr>
<tr><td>5.</td><td>Governance</td></tr>
<tr><td>5.1</td><td>Committee Memberships & Corporate Calendar</td></tr>
<tr><td>REPORT SUMMARY</td><td>The report asked Board members to consider and approve the membership of the Committees of the Board and appoint a Chair for each Committee for 2026/27 until the next AGM.

The annual schedule of meetings for post AGM 2026 and 2027 was set out for Board consideration and approval.</td></tr>
<tr><td>DISCUSSION</td><td>Members were content with the proposed Committee membership with one amendment, following which the following Committee membership was approved:

<table>
<tr><th>Business Development</th><th>Audit, Performance & Risk</th><th>People</th></tr>
<tr><td>Angus MacRae (Chair)</td><td>Graeme Russell (Chair)</td><td>Brian McLaren (Chair)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Paul Edie</td><td>Lynn Brown</td><td>Derek Breingan</td></tr>
<tr><td>Stephen Oswald</td><td>Amanda Britain</td><td>Gillian Merrett</td></tr>
<tr><td>Emma Garry</td><td>Derek Breingan</td><td>Frances Wood</td></tr>
<tr><td>Steve Dungworth</td><td>Gillian Merrett</td><td>Susan Grundy</td></tr>
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The Board discussed and agreed that the Partnership Forum (PF) should provide input to future Board meetings. How this would be achieved would be discussed with current members. It was further agreed that Board members would not attend PF meetings as a matter of course but could be invited to attend where their support would be beneficial.</td></tr>
<tr><td>DECISION</td><td>The Board:
• approved the membership of the Committees of the Board;
• elected Chairs for each Committee; and
• approved the Meeting Schedule for 2027</td></tr>
<tr><td>5.2</td><td>Annual Assurance Statement</td></tr>
<tr><td>REPORT SUMMARY</td><td>This report sets out the 2026 Annual Assurance Statement for Bield for approval by Board. The Board must be satisfied that Bield are compliant with all requirements as detailed in the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) Regulatory Framework, published on 1 April 2024.

The Annual Assurance Statement must be approved by Board and submitted to SHR no later than 31 October each year.

Following the Board’s approval of the review process on 10 June 2026, a Short Life Working Group was established to scrutinise Standards 4 and 5.</td></tr>
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	The full Board subsequently assessed evidence for Standards 1–7 throughout August to support the 2026 Annual Assurance Statement.
DISCUSSION	The Board agreed that it had received sufficient assurance and that the statement confirms that Bield remains compliant.
DECISION	The Board: • **noted** the Annual Assurance Statement Evidence Bank; • **noted** the Annual Assurance Statement Improvement Plan; • **approved** the Annual Assurance Statement 2026; and • **authorised** the Chair of the Board to sign the Annual Assurance Statement on behalf of the Board for submission to the Scottish Housing Regulator by the end of October 2026.
6.	**Any Other Business**
	No business discussed.
7.	**Date of Next Meeting**
	Board Meeting – Monday 23 November 2026 afternoon Board Away Day – Tuesday 24 November 2026 Dalmahoy Hotel & Country Club, Edinburgh