



### **Deputy Group Chief Executive and Group Secretary**

David Knowlton

#### **Brief Career History and Experience**

David joined Wyre Forest Community Housing after 10+ years as Group Finance Director at Sanctuary Housing Group, one of the largest Housing Companies in the country.

Earlier in his career, David held senior positions at three Midland based Housing Associations, Midland Area, Bournville Village Trust and Spiral Housing Association. He moved back to the Midlands on taking up his post with the Group, in late 1999.

#### **Current Responsibilities**

As the Deputy Group Chief Executive, David has responsibility for Financial Strategy, Company Secretarial services Facilities Management, Risk Management, Insurance and Procurement.

---



### **Group Director/ Managing Director, Vestia Community Trust)**

Marina Banner

#### **Brief Career History and Experience**

Marina was part of the Housing transfer team that established the organisation in 2000 and has been a Group Director since 2010. Her career in housing spans over 35 years and has included roles in front line service delivery, strategy and business improvement and development.

Marina is committed to the pursuit of Business Excellence, is a trained Assessor and was the first person to receive a personal Ambassador of Excellence Award for the West Midlands in 2005. In this role she has supported The Community Housing Group and a number of statutory, voluntary and private sector organisations to improve their businesses and more recently to adopt Lean thinking.

#### **Current Responsibilities**

As a Group Director responsible for the delivery of Corporate Services and Deputy Group Secretary, Marina is responsible for a broad range of services including:

Governance & Board Development, Regulation, ICT, Human Resources, Marketing & PR, Market Research, Business Planning, Business Improvement, Performance Monitoring, Corporate Social Responsibility, Stakeholder Communications and Involvement.

---

She is also responsible for supporting the Executive Team in developing and delivering the strategic and operational plans for the Group and subsidiary companies

She is also Managing Director of Vestia Community Trust; which is responsible for researching and piloting new models of collaborative service delivery to customers and communities suffering multiple disadvantage. This includes supporting people into employment and empowering them to be independent and responsible citizens who are able to make decisions about their lives, homes and communities. Vestia is also responsible for securing external funding to support delivery of the Group's vision of 'Improving Lives'.

---



**Group Director/Managing Director, Oakleaf Commercial Services**

Ian Hancock

**Brief Career History and Experience**

Ian trained in his early career as a Building Surveyor in the private sector. He later joined Knightstone Housing and Magna Housing Group delivering various construction and maintenance services.

Ian joined the Group in 2005 as Director of Asset Management before becoming Managing Director of Oakleaf on its inception in December 2013.

**Current Responsibilities**

Ian is responsible for the Group's Development and Asset Management Strategy, Climate change strategy, front-line Repairs and Environmental services, Investment Programmes and Health & Safety and Building Compliance.

As a Group Director he is also responsible for supporting the Executive Team in developing and delivering the strategic and operational plans for the Group and subsidiary companies.

As Managing Director of Oakleaf Commercial Services he leads delivery of the Oakleaf Commercial Services Ltd Business Plan objectives which in addition to providing the Group services above, includes delivery of a range of building services to commercial customers and the running of joinery and window manufacturing factories.



## **Director of Financial Services**

Steve Ball

### **Brief Career History and Experience**

Steve joined the Group in January 2004 as Head of Financial Services moving into the role of Head of Treasury, Risk and Insurance Services in 2014. He was appointed Director of Financial Services in 2017.

Steve started his career at KPMG, Birmingham before moving into housing finance at Sanctuary Housing where he gained experience over 15 years first as Development Accountant and then as Treasury Accountant in control of their substantial loan portfolio.

### **Current Responsibilities**

Steve is an operational Director, responsible for the finances of the Group including business planning, treasury, internal management reporting, external financial reporting and directing the Finance Department to provide a quality financial service to Group members.