BRIAN STEWART OBE

An experienced former Public Sector Chief Executive now enjoying a varied portfolio career of independent, non executive, advisory and trustee roles.

Education and Professional Qualifications

George Heriot's School, Edinburgh (1970 to 1976)
Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh (1976 to 1981)
Degree of Bachelor of Science, with First Class Honours in Town Planning (1981)
Corporate Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute (MRTPI), London (1986)

Non Executive, Independent Adviser and Trustee Career (October 2007 to present)

Independent Chair of Sizewell C Community Forum (EDF Energy) (November 2012 to present)

The Community Forum is a non statutory standing consultative forum of local authorities, parish councils and other key stakeholders affected by the proposed construction and operation of two new nuclear power reactors at Sizewell C, Suffolk, and associated impacts and infrastructure.

Independent Panel Member for HS2 Phase 2 Exceptional Hardship Scheme, and all Phase Need to Sell Scheme (HS2 Ltd) (June 2013 to present)

Serving on small lay panels assessing exceptional hardship and need to sell scheme claims from householders and businesses potentially affected by the construction and operation of the proposed HS2 high speed rail line, against agreed scheme criteria, and making recommendations to OfT decision makers about discretionary property purchase ahead of statutory compensation schemes becoming available as the project progresses.

Chair of Anglian (Great Ouse) Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (January 2018 to present)

Anglian (Great Ouse) is one of 12 RFCC's established by statute in England to manage and mitigate flood risk to established and planned new communities. The Great Ouse catchment, includes responsibility for the historic Fens infrastructure and growth pressures arising from much of the Oxford to Cambridge arc. The Committee comprises representatives from Lead Local Flood Authorities across the catchment and independent experts appointed by the Environment Agency. The Committee manages multi year revenue and capital programmes and seeks to influence national policy on flood risk and coastal erosion.

Chair, Papworth Trust (July 2019 to present)

Papworth Trust is a leading regional disability charity with a proud 100 year old history and a mission to promote the full potential of persons living with disability across the fields of work, leisure, care and housing. The charity has both regional scale and complexity being a registered housing association, a care and day service provider and a strong voice for disabled people generally. The charity also has considerable assets under investment, some directly, and some managed by its sister charity; the Varrier-Jones Foundation.

Ormiston Families Trust (November 2014 to September 2019)

Ormiston Families is a well respected medium sized regional charity operating across the East of England, providing a range of commissioned and funded services to assist disadvantaged children and their families. The Trust particularly works with gypsy and traveller families, those suffering from poverty or social exclusion, children showing mild and moderate mental health issues, those at risk of exclusion from school, and children at risk of losing regular contact with a parent in prison. I have held the following roles:-

Trustee (November 2014 to November 2015)

Member of Resources Committee (November 2014 to September 2019)

Vice Chair of Board of Trustees / Chair of Governance Committee (November 2015 to September 2019)

. .

Clarion Housing Group, and predecessors (July 2010 to July 2019)

Clarion Housing is the largest housing association group in England with 125000 homes and an aspiration to be a major developer of new homes utilising its unmatched scale and resources. It was created from the complex and sector leading merger of Circle Housing Group and Affinity Sutton Group as the first successful 'mega merger' of English housing associations. I held the following non executive roles in Circle and Clarion:-

Chair of Wherry Housing Association (April 2010 to October 2016)

Member of Circle Group Remuneration and Succession Committee (May 2011 to December 2015)

Member of Circle Group Management Board (October 2012 to November 2016)

Member of Circle and Affinity Sutton merger Joint Project Board (May 2015 to February 2016)

Chair of Circle Group Remuneration and Succession Committee (January 2016 to November 2016)

Member of Shadow Clarion Group Board (February 2016 to November 2016)

Member of Shadow Clarion Group Remuneration Committee (February 2016 to November 2016)

Member of Clarion Group Board (November 2016 to July 2019)

Member of Clarion Group Remuneration Committee (November 2016 to July 2019)

Member of Clarion Group Housing Association Common Board (November 2016 to March 2017)

Vice Chair of Clarion Group Housing Association Common Board (April 2017 to July 2019)

Member of Clarion Care and Support Board (October 2018 to July 2019)

West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (August 2008 to July 2013)

West Suffolk Hospital is a high performing medium sized District General Hospital, which achieved Foundation Trust status in 2012. I was initially invited to join as a supernumerary Board Member (Strategic Adviser) to assist with the development of Foundation Trust governance processes and planning advice concerning a potential new hospital site. After 1 year I properly joined the unitary Board. I held the following non executive roles:-

Strategic Adviser (August 2008 to July 2009)
Non Executive Director (August 2009 to July 2013)
Senior Independent Director (April 2011 to July 2013)
Chair of Strategic Developments Committee (April 2011 to July 2013)
Chair of Remuneration Committee (April 2011 to July 2013)

Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds Ltd (October 2007 to November 2012)

The local charity responsible for Britain's oldest working Regency theatre, with a year round produced and presented programme of performance art, conferences and education/outreach work. I held a number of roles over a difficult period for the theatre, due to funding subsidy cuts and the recession affecting audience numbers and the theatre's viability.

Trustee and Board Member (October 2007 to October 2009)
Vice Chair of Board of Management (October 2009 to October 2010)
Chair of Board of Management (October 2010 to November 2012)

Executive Career (1981 to 2010)

Chief Executive, East of England Regional Assembly, Flempton, Suffolk, England (February 2000 to March 2010)

Principal Adviser to recognised regional grouping of 52 local authorities in the East of England.

Principal Adviser to East of England Regional Assembly (designated Voluntary Regional Chamber), undertaking the role of Regional Planning and Housing Body, Regional Development Agency scrutiny and joint partnership working with the Government Office for the East of England.

Professionally led the development of the first East of England Plan: the then statutory Regional Spatial Strategy determining a high growth spatial development strategy to 2021 for a region of 5.4 million residents, and associated strategic infrastructure improvements.

Chief Executive, Moray Council, Elgin, Scotland (May 1999 to February 2000)

Chief Executive of a Scottish unitary local authority employing 4600, with a revenue budget of £100 million per annum, and a capital budget of £8 million per annum.

Chief Executive, Western Isles Council, Stornoway, Scotland (March 1993 to May 1999)

Chief Executive of a Scottish unitary local authority employing 2200, with a revenue budget of £70 million per annum, and a capital budget of £16 million per annum.

Recruited to deal with service recovery and reputational aftermath of the Council losing £24million in collapsed bank BCCI.

Head of the Paid Service to a Council of 31 independent, non partisan elected members.

Undertook a major turnaround review of services and governance/organisational structures encompassing all departments of the Council. The result was a reduction in the number of Council Departments from 12 to 8, the number of senior managers from 47 to 28, the freeing up of over £1 million in efficiency savings for investment into front line services and key corporate initiatives and the restoration of the Council's reputation locally and nationally.

Director of Administrative Services, Ross & Cromarty District Council, Dingwall, Scotland (May 1987 to March 1993)

Chief Officer/Head of Service for Administrative and Central Services. Procedural adviser to the Council.

Corporate Planning Officer, Rushmoor Borough Council, Hampshire, England (May 1985 to May 1987)

Manager of Chief Executive's Office. Responsible for special projects, policy development, research and intelligence, complaints handling, press and publicity, and marketing.

Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive, Newbury District Council, Berkshire, England (July 1983 to April1985)

Staff Officer to Chief Executive. Responsible for dealing with complaints, special projects, policy development and local employment initiatives funded by the then Manpower Services Commission.

Graduate Administrator, United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, Warrington, England (September 1981 to July 1983)

Posts in industrial relations and international scientist recruitment as part of 'fast track' graduate scheme.