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The Winds of Change
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Stephanie Bamford



Strategy Support Service

Help I'm a Commissioner! What Do I Do Now?

Stephanie Bamford



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Presented by
Stephanie Bamford
Strategy Support Service

Moderated by
Larry Cobb
Ethicsworks

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A session of two parts

What makes people want to be a
Commissioner?

Why, What and How

How effective are you and your
colleagues?

How can you improve your
performance

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Why am I doing this?

- To provide affordable homes for many millions of low income people
- To offer choice to people whose options are limited
- To challenge myself, and my organisation to meet local needs, whatever they may be
- To offer extra care and support to the most vulnerable
- To contribute, in however small or large a way, to inclusive community development, through reducing poor housing

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Why is it worth doing?

Because values matter

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Why is it worth doing?

Because you can encourage
openness and accountability

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Why is it worth doing?

Because you have valuable
skills and experience

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What have you taken on?

The role of the Board

- Improving governance
- Guarding the mission
- Setting strategies, plans and objectives
- Financial control
- Establishing the delegation framework



What have you taken on?

The role of the Board

- Taking key decisions
- Managing risk
- Monitoring performance
- Ensuring proper conduct of affairs
- Appointing and remunerating the CEO



How do you make it work?

Your personal role involves all of :

- Supporting objectives and policies
- Contributing and sharing responsibility
- Preparing for and attending meetings
- Contributing outside board meetings
- Supporting governance improvements

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How long should you serve?

An interesting question, and one for individual organisations to discuss and reach agreement on

In the UK, Commissioners are usually asked to serve for :

- minimum of three years
- maximum of nine years



How can I find out more?

Never be afraid to ask :

- Induction
- Briefings by staff
- The trade press
- Other publications – NAHRO
- Awaydays, workshops, training, conferences, seminars

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Well that's about it from me

Does anyone have any questions before we move on to look at Commissioner effectiveness?

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Commissioners

How effective are you?

Self Assessment Exercise 1



Commissioners
Do you work well as a team?

Self Assessment Exercise 2

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Any further questions?

Thank you for your time

I hope you have enjoyed
yourselves

See you all next year in
Atlanta, Georgia

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