

Kent County Council

Affordable Housing Select Committee

Biographies

Bob Heapy

Chief Executive, Town & Country Housing

Bob has been the Chief Executive of Town & Country Housing Group since October 2010. Bob recently lead on the merger of Town & Country with the Peabody Trust, which completed in May 2019 and secured the future of the Group.

Previously Bob was the Chief Executive of Enfield Homes and Chief Executive of the “Partners” brand, a joint venture between the Bank of Scotland and United House Construction delivering large scale PFI projects in London and the South East.

Bob earlier held Director positions at Family Mosaic, Moat Housing Group and the London Borough of Newham.

Bob is a Quantity Surveyor and Project Manager by profession and in his earlier career worked in construction in both the private and public sectors in the housing, transport infrastructure, manufacturing and pharmaceutical sectors.

Kerry Kyriacou

Executive Director of Development and Sales, Optivo

Kerry joined Optivo as Executive Director of Development and Sales in May 2018.

Kerry has extensive experience in housing, starting his housing career at Hyde, having previously worked in commercial development for a large multinational business.

The majority of Kerry’s housing career has been with Affinity Sutton/Clarion, where he worked for 17 years as Executive Director of Development and Sales, leading the organisation's development activities.

He left Clarion in August 2017 to become Interim Executive Director of Development at Metropolitan before joining Optivo. Kerry is also a qualified architect.

Optivo is one of the largest housing providers in the UK and a member of the G15 group of London’s largest housing associations. Optivo has over 45,000 homes across London, the South East and the Midlands.

Mark Leader

Property Director, West Kent Housing Association

Mark Leader has been a Director at West Kent since 2002 and has expanded the role from Development Director responsible for all new build and regeneration dealing with affordable rent, intermediate rent and shared ownership homes. Expanding the area of operation to all areas of Kent and Medway has led to building over 2,000 new homes.

Mark was the lead Director responsible for the Kent PFI – Excellent Homes for All working in partnership with Galliford Try.

Since 2015 he has been the Property Director with responsibilities for all of West Kent's existing 7,500 homes and future asset strategy.