



CIH Northern Ireland board member profiles

Dan Corr **Chair**

Dan has had a 40 year career in financing housing with Nationwide Building Society, from branch manager to Northern Ireland Director until his retirement in 2006. He is a past chair of the Council of Mortgage Lenders (NI). His considerable experience and knowledge has been enhanced whilst sitting on several boards across the Province.

He currently sits on the National House Building Council (NHBC), Northern Ireland Committee and NHBC Consumer Committee (UK). Dan has previously chaired Northern Ireland Co-ownership Housing Association and was board member with Habitat for Humanity. A founding member of Business in the Community (NI) in which he served on the board and was appointed Prince of Wales Ambassador in Northern Ireland for Corporate Social Responsibility. He is also immediate past chair of TinyLife, Northern Ireland's Premature baby Charity, and an Accreditation Panellist for Investors in People.

Dan joined the board of CIH NI in 2012 and was the institute's Vice Chair.

Elizabeth Martin **Vice Chair**

Elizabeth Martin has been Housing Manager with Clanmil since January 2015, she is responsible for the management of General Needs Housing. Prior to joining Clanmil she worked in the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for 34 years in various roles, at district and Regional level.

Elizabeth completed the Chartered Institute of Housing Professional Qualification in 1991. Elizabeth has a wide and varied range of experiences within the provision of a Housing Service. She has worked within a Local District Office of the NIHE giving her the experience of working directly with individual customers to help meet their needs, as well as working within communities to increase their capacity to improve their capacity to improve their local areas. She is committed to ensuring that the customer experience is of a high standard and continually looks at ways to improve the quality of the service provided to tenants. Elizabeth currently leads the Learning Team at CIH.

Ben Mallon

Ben is a Client Manager at MCE Public Relations specialising in Public Affairs, Media Relations and Stakeholder Engagement.

Previously, Ben worked for a consultancy firm in the Middle East advising governments and civil society organisations in conflict transformation. Ben has previously worked for a Member of the European Parliament in Brussels, a Member of Parliament and then for an MLA in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

On a voluntary basis, Ben is a Director of a number of organisations, including Chartered Institute of Housing, Open College Network and the Bytes Project, as well as being a School Governor in East Belfast. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations and is a graduate of the Washington Ireland Program for Service and Leadership, working with the Northern Ireland Bureau in Washington DC.

Ben holds a Bachelor of Education (Hons) with History, and a Masters in Politics, both from Queen's University Belfast. He is currently studying for an Advanced Diploma in Leadership and Community Planning.

Colm McQuillan

Colm was appointed Director of Housing Services for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive from 1st April 2017. Colm has worked with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for 33 years and has held a number of operational and strategic posts that have influenced and informed the development of housing policy, strategies, and services.

Colm has extensive experience and expertise in all areas of housing policies, supporting people, legislation, Housing Benefit and homelessness strategies, including those related to Community Involvement, Cohesion and Safety. Colm had a lead role in the Modernisation of the Landlord Division and undertook major systems development, implementation and restructuring.

As Assistant Director of Supporting People, he was responsible for the implementation of the programme that enabled voluntary and community organisations to develop and deliver a range of housing and other related support services to vulnerable people. As Director of Housing Services he is responsible for the management and business associated with the Housing Executive's 87,000 properties.

David Little

David has a background in Civil Engineering, and has been involved in the house building sector for over 20 years. He held a number of sites and office based roles with one of the largest local house builders, and in 1999 he joined the National House-Building Council (NHBC) where he is Regional Director for Northern Ireland and Isle of Man. He has a BSc in Civil Engineering, an MBA and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Building.

David was a Board Member of a local Housing Association for six years until 2014. He currently is Chair of CIOB in Ireland and Board Member of NI Co-ownership Housing. He is also a member of NI Building Regulations Advisory Committee. These roles have given him extensive knowledge of social and affordable housing, and of technical issues affecting the construction of future new homes, as well as experience of the wider construction industry.

Eileen Patterson

Eileen is the Director of Communities with Radius Housing.

Eileen has vast experience in social housing and housing policy. She previously worked for the Housing Executive and held various positions in District Offices and Head Office. She also spent a number of years on secondment to the DSD Housing Branch developing housing and regulation policy.

Eileen is a graduate of The Ulster University and is one of the few people in Northern Ireland to hold an MSc in Housing.

Emma Johnston

Emma is a senior solicitor who has over 16 years' experience in commercial real estate and property finance transactions. Emma has acted on acquisitions, disposals, lettings, corporate support including PFI/PPP projects work and property finance related matters on behalf of sellers, buyers, borrowers and developers. She currently acts on leasing and management work. She is dual qualified in England/Wales and Northern Ireland. Emma worked for nine years in the City of London, as well as three years as an in-house real estate and banking solicitor for The Bank of Ireland, Belfast.

John Hannigan

John Hannigan is Chief Executive Officer of Circle Voluntary Housing Association, one of Ireland's largest Tier 3 Approved Housing Bodies, since September 2017. Prior to this John was Managing Director of Sunbeam House Services (2010 to 2017) and Company Treasurer of Respond Housing Association (2004 to 2010) in Ireland and South Africa. John has worked at senior executive level within the Private Sector (KPMG, Grant Thornton and EY) and as Group Director and Company Secretary in the UK for large Registered Social Landlords (Accord and Prime Focus). John is a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute of Housing, a Fellow of the Association of Certified Accountants and a member of the Institute of Directors in Ireland. John graduated from Warwick Business School with an MBA in 2001.

Niall Sheridan

Niall has worked for 33 years in social housing in Ireland, currently as Group Director of Development & Assets for Choice Housing Ireland Group with overall responsibility for development and asset management. Niall is the former Chair of the Simon Community Northern Ireland (2008-2011) and currently a Board Member of Skainos (Urban Regeneration, Inner East Belfast) and Chartered Institute of Housing (Northern Ireland).

Niall holds a B.A. (Hons.) Geography (QUB), a Postgraduate Diploma in Town & Country Planning (QUB) – Chartered Town Planner, a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) University of Ulster (UUJ), a Professional Qualification of the Chartered Institute of Housing – Corporate Member and a Certificate in Social Housing Management - Republic of Ireland (National College of Ireland). Niall is a graduate of Federal Executive Institute (USA) – Leadership for a Democratic Society Programme – 2009.

Ronan O'Hara

Ronan is a senior property professional specialising in complex property initiatives, strategy development and leading change. He is currently employed by SIB Ltd as a Strategic Adviser focusing

on asset optimisation, asset strategy development, asset management planning, due-diligence activities and transaction support. Ronan's career to date has included senior roles with the Building Research Establishment (BRE), American Express Plc, GVA LLP, W.S. Atkins Plc, Savills Plc, English Heritage and Circle Housing Group. His experience extends across the full property lifecycle and he has worked with mixed-tenure, social, heritage and commercial property portfolios.

Ronan holds degrees in Business and Finance, Building Surveying and Environmental Sciences from the Queens University Belfast, the Open University Business School and London Southbank University. He is a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and a member of the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH), Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), Association of Project Safety (APS) and Association of Project Management (APM). Ronan also serves as a Non-Executive Board Member with the housing provider Acis Group Ltd. During his free time Ronan focuses on his young family, gardening and running.

Steven Sibbald

Steven has worked for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for over 20 years. He is currently involved in estate management in the Lisburn office.

Steven has previously worked with vulnerable adults and those with addictions and has also managed a hostel for homeless people. He works closely with community groups in the Lisburn area and is also interested in promoting 'Shared Future' initiatives and developing community involvement in local housing issues.

Steven has been a member of the Chartered Institute of Housing since 2005 both as a student and corporate member and is a graduate of the University of Ulster.