



Message from Roger Phillips, SKylight Chair

SKylight is stepping into its fifth year of operations and after achieving so much in a short space of time already, we are excited about what is next by exploring other ways in which we can support the communities of Stockport and wider. Some of the things we have achieved in the last 12 months include:

- Saving over £150,000 for members of the five Your Local Pantry stores, giving local residents access to affordable food items, creating a sustainable and long-term solution to food poverty, and diverting over 50 tonnes of food waste from landfill
- Reusing over 1220 pieces of furniture and supporting 450 household in need through the Furniture Recycling Project, diverting 47 tonnes from landfill
- Helping over 250 people back into education, training or employment through the Motiv8 service; delivering the Kickstart Programme for young people; supporting over 50 apprenticeship opportunities within Stockport Homes Group and other local employers
- Supporting 31 rough sleepers into accommodation
- Providing school holiday clubs for 244 children; diversionary activities for young people at risk of offending; providing dedicated support workers helping hundreds of vulnerable people struggling with mental health, families at risk of Domestic Violence and at risk of exploitation

And that's just the tip of the iceberg. We work closely with others in the Third Sector in Stockport and Greater Manchester and also other GM housing providers to further our shared aims. In the last year alone, SKylight supported local communities and civic society groups in Stockport to secure over £490K in grant income.

We're an organisation that is growing, and we need help to support that growth through the strategic leadership on our Board. We are keen to encourage applications from those who have a passion to make a positive difference to the lives of those who need it.

You will have knowledge and experience relevant to SKylight and/or you may be a senior professional or specialist with an understanding of the governance or finances of charitable organisations. Having 'lived experience' of the services offered by SKylight or Stockport Homes Group is also desirable.

We have a fantastic Board who are very passionate about SKylight and the wider Stockport Homes Group. These individuals bring with them a wide range of views and experience, and we want to add to this. We are looking for new Board Members who can contribute fully to that team, work collaboratively with us whilst offering their own ideas.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Closing date for completed applications is
Midnight on 8th September 2022

Interviews will take place in
26th September 2022

If you have any questions about the role, please contact Jonathan Vali, Governance Manager at

 **governance@stockporthomes.org**

About SKylight

SKylight is a Charitable Community Benefit Society, established in 2018 a subsidiary of Stockport Homes Group, formerly known as Foundations Stockport. In 2022 Foundations became SKylight to reflect the growth and evolution of the organisation and the emphasis on aspiration for our customers.

SKylight has four broad key Aims stated in its governing document, and activity is structured and prioritised to deliver against these Aims:

- Supporting people into employment, relieving poverty, relieving food poverty and developing digital skills,
- Supporting customers in local communities and delivering support services to help people live independently,
- Empowering communities to develop networks of support, including targeted work with people who may experience disadvantage such as people with disabilities, from ethnic minority communities and those with complex needs,
- Working in partnership to reduce demand on statutory services; and supporting the development of the third sector, ensuring additional resources and services are secured.

The Aims of SKylight seek to address a wide range of disadvantages experienced by people living within the Borough of Stockport including:

- Economic disadvantage, particularly for those residents who live within social housing,
- Disadvantage which is specific to particular groups including people with disabilities, people from ethnic minority communities and those with complex needs,
- The difficulties people face in living independently and again recognises that customers with vulnerabilities tend to be concentrated in social and private rented sector housing.

The Aims also recognise the need to work in partnership with other third sector organisations in the Borough, harnessing the collective knowledge, experience and skills of organisations to secure additional resources and services, helping to reduce demand on stretched statutory services.

As well as being able to bid for new funding streams and tender opportunities as they arise, SKylight has been able to take responsibility for a number of existing Social Inclusion projects which were established within Stockport Homes, and clearly align with the Aims of the charitable arm. This supports SKylight in establishing its identity and building a track record, whilst also enabling it to bid for funding that may otherwise have been unavailable. Services within SKylight's remit include Motiv8, Your Local Pantry, the Furniture Recycling Project and Fabulous Foundations.

SKylight continues to deliver its Business Plan that provides an ambitious framework to develop and grow over the coming five years, delivering a range of services and outcomes which will benefit some of the most disadvantaged households in Stockport and Greater Manchester. In recognition of our growth and ambitions for the future, we reviewed our 'Foundations' brand and decided to move towards a more aspirational name which reflects both the evolution of the organisation and the growth and progression of the many customers who access our services. From May 2022 Foundations Stockport became SKylight.

Board Member **Role Description**

SKylight Board Members are the organisation's Trustees.

All Board Members/Trustees must comply with the six main duties of a Trustee

- Ensure your charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit
- Comply with your charity's governing document and the law
- Act in your charity's best interests
- Manage your charity's resources responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Ensure your charity is accountable

Board Members discharge these responsibilities through the SKylight Board. The Board's main functions are to:

- Develop and support the Aims of SKylight.
- Positively represent SKylight and the Stockport Homes Group (SHG)
- Set and monitor performance against targets
- Satisfy itself that financial information is accurate and that financial controls and risk management systems are robust
- Approve annual budgets and audited annual accounts
- Protect the assets of the companies in SHG
- Ensure the company operates within the law and according to its rules.

Board Members are also required to:

- Promote the Stockport Homes Group values and act in accordance with them at all times
- Prepare for and attend meetings, training and other events, minimum attendance levels of 80 per cent are required
- Focus on strategy rather than operational detail
- Maintain an understanding of the challenges facing the diverse communities that SHG serves
- Respect confidential information relating to the business and decisions
- Contribute to and share collective responsibility for decisions
- Challenge and support SHG staff
- Work cooperatively with fellow Board members, staff, and external stakeholders
- Keep up to date with local and national policy issues affecting SHG
- Comply with the SHG Board Member Code of Conduct



SHG Group Structure

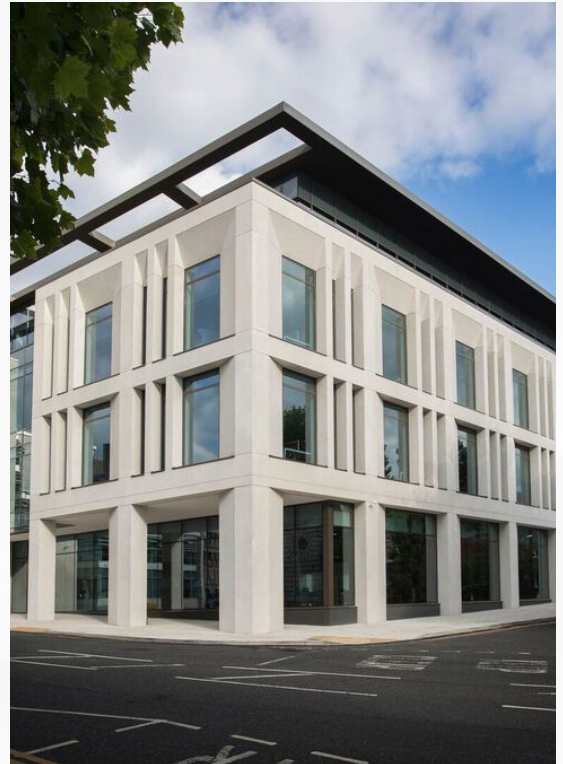
SKylight supports SHG's ability to achieve our mission and it works in line with the values that inform the SHG's work. These are:

SHG Mission

One team, transforming lives

SHG Aims

- Be a great place to work
- Be accountable to customers
- Maximise efficiency
- Reduce inequalities
- Build strong, collaborative relationships
- Improve the environment



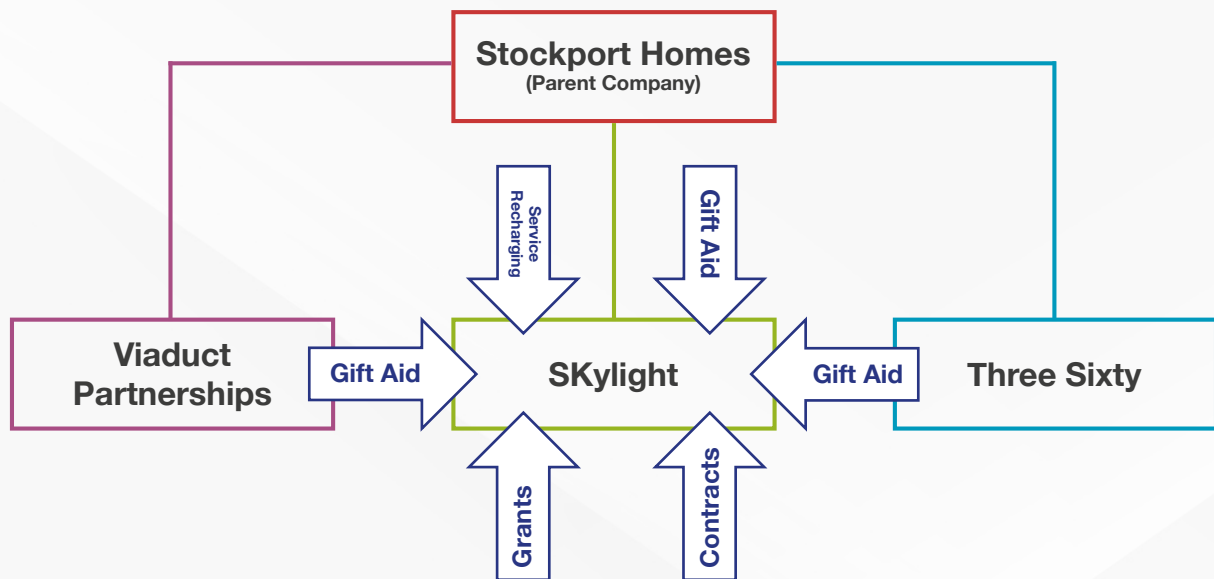
Values

- Ambition**
We have the ambition and courage to challenge; translating this into commercial success and brilliant outcomes for customers
- Social Responsibility**
We always try to do the right thing; using our role as a service provider, employer and buyer to generate trust, build our communities and empower our people
- Passion**
We have a passion for what we do; with positive, motivated and enthusiastic staff who enjoy their work
- Innovation**
We are innovative in everything we do; with the agility, creativity and edge to keep defying expectations and deliver fresh and exciting things
- Respect**
We treat each other with respect; supporting and inspiring one another and collaborating across teams and partnerships
- Excellence**
We continually improve how we work; challenging the status quo, learning from what goes well and always being professional

For more information about Stockport Homes, visit the website on

www.stockporthomes.org

Group Structure



Desirable Experience

Board Members will be recruited according to their suitability, in line with the role description below. However, specific skills / experience in one or more of the following would be an advantage:

- Working in the charitable / voluntary sector
- Finance
- Health & Wellbeing
- Tender and business development
- A customer of Stockport Homes and/or SKylight

Governance and Management Arrangements

The SKylight Board meets four times per year. Meetings are usually held early on Monday evenings at the corporate offices, Cornerstone. Board Members are expected to attend the SKylight Board Away Day and two Stockport Homes Group away days per year. Attendance at training events may also be required.

Recruitment, Development and Appraisal

Board Members are recruited for the skills and experience they bring to the Boards of the Stockport Homes Group.

Stockport Homes Group expects you to give your best and will support you to be an excellent non-executive director. Board Members receive a full induction and ongoing training and support to help them in their roles.

Board members are appraised at least every two years. You will be given the opportunity to critically discuss:

- Performance of the Board as a whole
- Your performance and any development needs
- Performance of the company in supporting you; and
- The company's plans for the future

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Stockport Homes Group is passionate about inclusivity, both as a service provider and an employer. The SHG has an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy to take this commitment forward. It is underpinned by the conviction that diversity in leadership:

- Improves governance and risk management
- Improves decision making and problem solving
- Drives forward organisational performance

SKylight Board Members must actively promote the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion in their work for SKylight and SHG.

We are committed to ensuring our Boards represent the communities they serve and are particularly keen to hear from candidates from underrepresented groups including ethnic minorities, disabled people and those who are LGBTQ+.

Expenses

SKylight Board Members are not remunerated, however any unavoidable out of pocket expenses will be covered.