

LOWRI RICHARDS – CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Lowri graduated from the University of Cambridge in 2012 with a BA Geography and MSci History and Philosophy of Science. She then pursued a Masters in Community Organising at Queen Mary University of London involving applied theory and organising in practice; working with tenants in Newham, Tower Hamlets and the East London Community Land Trust.

During this year working with local communities on housing issues, she became more interested in the Affordable Housing sector and decided to pursue a career in social housing, taking up position as a Graduate Trainee with Sanctuary Group in 2013. She gained experience in Supported Housing, Assets, Community Investment and Home Care. In 2015, she moved to Sanctuary Scotland, to work with housing management teams to improve performance and deliver better outcomes for staff and service users. As the Policy and Equalities Manager, she was responsible for ensuring policies and procedures reflected best practice and were compliant with legislation; equalities projects - ensuring services were fair and accessible to all; continuously improving internal systems and operating models; and supported tenant participation initiatives.

She moved to Skye to commence the role as LSHA's new Tenant Engagement and Support Manager in August 2021. Since then, she has worked to set up more tenant participation activities across the area, listen to tenants and act on their feedback and consult on important services like rent reviews. She has facilitated the creation of a new Tenant Participation Strategy and worked with all departments on projects from Energy Advice/damp and mould concerns to community leisure spaces and gardens. Lowri helped to introduce new and more frequent communication to keep tenants and service users informed of news and changes at LSHA. In her tenancy sustainment work, she secured large grant funds to help heat homes during winter and provided intensive support to help people sustain their tenancies where they were at risk; working with housing, property services, rent team and external partners like Police Scotland, the NHS and The Highland Council.

In a voluntary capacity, Lowri was Co-Chair of the grassroots campaigns team for the charity Safe Passage 2017 - 2021, working to influence the Government on the provision of safe and legal routes to sanctuary for child refugees. She is currently a member of Kilmuir Community Trust and enjoys walking her Collie dog and sea swimming.

She is delighted to have been appointed the new Chief Executive of LSHA in July 2024.