

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Cabinet

Date: 16/12/2024

Subject: LBHF Companies Update

Report of: Councillor Rowan Ree, Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform

Report author: Waheeda Soomro, Commercial Manager

Responsible Director: Sukvinder Kalsi, Executive Director Finance & Corporate Services

SUMMARY

The London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham has several companies registered at Companies House. This report provides an update on the status of these companies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note that Appendices 1-6 are not for publication on the basis that they contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) as set out in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).
 2. To note the status of the companies.
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Wards Affected: None

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Building shared prosperity	When the companies do well it benefits the borough and ultimately our residents
Creating a compassionate council	Setting up companies can enable the council to manage issues that affect residents more innovatively
Doing things with local residents, not to them	Enables the Council as shareholder to influence delivery against resident priorities through innovation and commercial approaches.
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	On occasion companies can assist the council in operating efficiently and securing better outcomes for the borough.

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Taking pride in H&F	Company business often supports improvements to the borough
Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency	Ensuring that we as a shareholder or partner highlight the council's commitment to climate and ecological emergency in the work companies deliver.

Financial Impact

Please see Exempt Appendix 6 for finance comments.

Prepared by James Newman, AD Finance, 19 September 2024

Verified by Sukvinder Kalsi via email, Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services, 16 October 2024

Legal Implications

This report sets out the status of 5 companies owned by the Council and is for noting only.

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

Angela Hogan, Chief Solicitor (Contracts and Procurement) 9 September 2024

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Proposals and Analysis of Options

1. The council presently has 3 active limited companies and is part of 2 Joint Ventures.
2. Cabinet now receives bi-annual updates on the position of the companies. This fulfils the function of the council as a shareholder or joint venture partner in these companies, enhancing transparency and oversight.
3. Cabinet on 7 October 2024 received a separate detailed report about the Civic Campus and this also links in with two companies relating to West King Street Renewal LLP and H&F Housing Developments Ltd.

4. Council departmental directors and appropriate officers engage with relevant companies as required for the business of the companies. Regular updates are presented to the internal Commercial Board on activities of companies and the LLP, and then reported to SLT.
5. Each company has their own legal advice and accountancy support. LLP programme arrangements are in place to track the risk and delivery of the developments. The director arrangements have been refreshed and training is provided to support directors working on the Joint Ventures.
6. Director training is due to be delivered to current and prospective company directors and LLP representatives.
7. LBHF companies have been constituted for a purpose and once that purpose is fulfilled action is taken accordingly in relation to their direction of travel.
8. An overview of the companies' status on Companies House, purpose and direction of travel is as follows:

Company (Companies House link)	Purpose & direction of travel
Active	
H&F Housing Developments LTD https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/07811156	Development of building projects. See Appendix 1 Keep as is
HFS Developments 2 Limited https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/10286958	Development of building projects, buying, and selling of own real estate. See Appendix 3 Keep as is
LBHF Ventures Limited https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/10222097	Management consultancy, public administration activities, support to performing arts and other information service activities. Exploring options for next steps
LLP	
HFS Developments LLP https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/OC392278	Joint Venture to optimise provision of affordable housing in the borough. See Appendix 4
West King Street Renewal LLP https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/OC430982	Joint Venture for the development and sale of 204 properties. See Appendix 2 Keep as is

9. Further details about the workings of these companies can be found in Exempt Appendices 1 – 6.

Risk Management Implications

There are no risks associated with this report.

Jules Binney, Risk and Assurance Manager, 10 September 2024

LIST OF APPENDICES

Exempt Appendix 1 provides further details on H&F Housing Developments Limited

Exempt Appendix 2 provides further details on West King Street Renewal LLP

Exempt Appendix 3 provides further details on HFS Developments 2 Limited

Exempt Appendix 4 provides further details on HFS Development LLP

Exempt Appendix 5 provides further details on LBHF Ventures Limited

Exempt Appendix 6 – Financial Implications