

Melvin Kenyon

Melvin has spent much of his working life in senior leadership roles to FTSE 250 board level. He has worked as both an executive and non-executive director in private and public sectors. He has a wide-ranging business, operational and management experience, with a particular focus on information technology. For most of his career he has carried out analytical and investigative work and he prides himself on attention to detail, a fiercely logical, fact-based approach to his work and high-quality report-writing. He now spends much of his professional life in the investigation of standards complaints and related work (see below) and runs his own company, Kenyon Brabrook Ltd.

After leaving university he spent over 20 years in retail - at the John Lewis Partnership, Richard Shops, and the Boots Group before moving on to T&S Stores (a FTSE 250 company with 1400 stores and 15,000 employees) where he sat on the PLC board for over five years, prior to its £500m+ acquisition by Tesco. He also had a spell as a management consultant, advising retail clients, at Price Waterhouse. Later in his career, after leaving T&S Stores and working for a period as an interim manager, he opted to join the public sector and spent almost 10 years working for an agency of the Department for Education in Nottingham in various leadership positions, including that of Chief Operating Officer.

Since leaving that role, for the past 10 years he has been a non-executive director in social housing - at Ongo Homes (where he was Senior Independent Director, Vice-Chair and served on the Governance and Remuneration Committee), the Jigsaw Homes Group (where he is also a member of the Remuneration and Nominations Committee), and the James Farmer and Lemmoin-Cannon Almshouse Charity. Until recently he was a member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee of Nottingham Trent University. He was also a non-executive director of the Nottingham-based LEAD Academy Trust, where he chaired the Audit and Risk Committee.

As noted above he now spends much of his professional life in the investigation of standards complaints and related work. He has led investigations (sometimes several times) for almost 40 local authorities working at parish, town, district/borough and unitary councils across England. He has also done similar work for the Two Counties Trust (based at Kirkby-in-Ashfield) and for the Society of Local Council Clerks.

He is experienced at carrying out investigations and presenting his findings at Standards Hearings. The outcomes of those hearings have not infrequently appeared in local and national media and can be found in the public domain through an internet search.

He currently serves as an Independent Person for four authorities – Pendle Borough Council, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council, Cotswold District Council and Stroud District Council. His work as an Independent Person typically involves working with the Monitoring Officer in the assessment of standards complaints

Alistair Davis

Alistair has over 25 years' management experience in the private sector and is currently a senior manager who has demonstrable experience dealing with personnel at all levels.

He sits on the Derby City Council School Admissions Appeal Panel as a lay member and also does voluntary work within the justice system.

He has also been an Independent Person with Derby City Council since 2023.

In his voluntary role he is required to conduct himself effectively during the hearing process, making an effective contribution to judicial decision making and making impartial decisions.

This role requires him to understand and appreciate different perspectives, communicate with sensitivity and respect, work and engage with people professionally, make fair and transparent decisions, show self-awareness and be open to learning.

In his day to day working career, he frequently assesses whether standards are being met, and give effective leadership so that all employees can achieve their goals.

He has proven decision making skills and considers himself to be an excellent communicator.

He has been managing people (and processes) in a leadership role for over 30 years and during that time has gained a wealth of skills. This includes supporting (and enforcing where necessary) policies that ensure workplace culture is a positive experience for all and free from harassment.