Chair of Audit and Risk Committee

www.livin.co.uk

Salary: £8,600 per annum plus expenses



livin

CASTLE PEAK GROUP

Candidate pack
November 2026

Welcome Letter



Welcome Letter

Thank you for visiting our site and for your interest in this exciting Board opportunity at Livin. I hope that, after learning more about us, you will feel inspired to apply and join us at a pivotal time for the social housing sector and as we approach the third year of delivering our business strategy, Plan A.

I have been with Livin for over four years and was delighted to be appointed Chair of the Board in September 2025. As part of our Board Succession Plan, we are now seeking a talented professional with finance and/or audit senior level experience and a background in strategic risk analysis/evaluation to chair our Audit and Risk Committee. You will help us advance our strategic priorities, working closely with Board colleagues and our Executive Management Team.

This site offers a snapshot of our vision, values, and priorities, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to improving the lives of our tenants and communities. It also includes helpful insight on key governance matters within the purview of our audit and risk committee – financial statements, our value for money strategy and ESG reporting.

We strive to deliver an outstanding customer experience and consistently achieve some of the highest tenant satisfaction ratings nationally. In August 2026 the Regulator for Social Housing confirmed that we have received the highest available grades against the consumer, financial viability and governance standards. This outstanding achievement is testament to the commitment, hard-work and collaborative effort across the Livin team.

We would welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and experiences who can bring different perspectives to our work.

If you require further information, please contact our appointed recruitment partner, James Carss at Castle Peak Group. Thank you again for your interest in joining us.



Natalie Wilkinson
Chair of the Board



Role Profile

The role at a glance

Location: Spennymoor, County Durham

Salary: £8,600 per annum plus expenses

Contract type: Three years, subject to completion of an initial one-year review by the Board

About us

We are an award-winning not for profit housing association that owns over 9,000 homes across County Durham. We offer more than just a home. We help improve the lives of the people living in our homes and in our places. We work hard to make sure those homes are high quality, sustainable and adaptable, while meeting tenants' current and future aspirations. We offer support that helps people into work and training and increase their financial confidence and stability.

Our Plan A sets out our strategy for a realistic path to success. It's flexible. It can cope with the things we do not yet know. Importantly it's cohesive, ensuring we are working together with our teams, partners, tenants and residents to maximise the impact we can make by improving lives through the provision of sustainable homes and places.

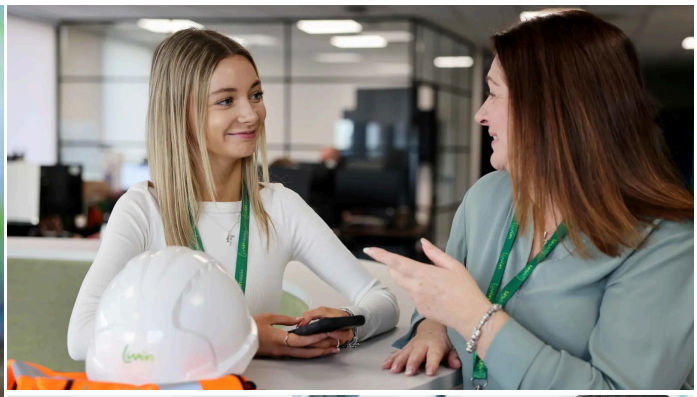
About the role

This is an exciting opportunity to join Livin's Board and play a leading role in ensuring we remain well governed, financially resilient and equipped to manage the risks and opportunities ahead. As Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, you will provide leadership to the Committee, support the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board and help ensure that sound governance, effective assurance and informed decision making underpin the delivery of Plan A.

You will lead open and constructive discussion on audit, risk, internal control, governance and financial matters, working closely with fellow Board members, our Executive team and internal and external auditors. You will help the Board get to the heart of complex issues, providing constructive challenge while ensuring that risks are properly understood and managed and that the organisation remains financially strong.

But this role is about more than assurance and financial oversight. Good governance ultimately matters because of the difference it enables us to make for our tenants and communities. You will bring your expertise to the wider Board, helping us balance ambition with risk, keep the customer voice at the heart of decision making and make balanced, evidence-led decisions that support our social purpose and improve outcomes for the people and places we serve.







Person profile

You will bring significant senior leadership experience together with strong, recent financial and risk management expertise and the confidence to chair complex discussions effectively. A recognised accountancy or audit qualification and chairing experience are essential, reflecting the specialist assurance this appointment brings to the Board. You will be financially literate, comfortable interrogating complex information and able to translate what it means into clear, strategic judgements.

Just as importantly, we are looking for someone who knows how to challenge constructively, listen carefully and bring others with them. You will be an engaging and collaborative leader who encourages open debate, asks the questions that need to be asked and builds effective relationships with Board colleagues, executives and auditors. You will combine independence of thought with an appreciation of collective decision making and the responsibility that comes with being a senior member of the Board.

You will need an understanding of the sector and the issues it faces, together with a strong connection to Livin's social purpose. We are particularly interested in people who can bring fresh perspectives and different experiences to our Board. We are open to candidates who may not previously have considered a non-executive role and particularly welcome applications from groups currently underrepresented on the Board.

Time commitment

You'll attend five Board meetings a year, relevant committees and key events including the Annual Leadership Conference and mid-year Strategy Delivery Board. Ongoing engagement with the Chair, Chief Executive and Executive Team, plus regular learning and development, is expected.



How to apply

We like to be inclusive and look at things from different perspectives to drive innovation. Castle Peak Group is acting as our retained consultancy for this appointment.

Candidates should apply by sending a CV and cover letter using the contact form or by emailing **james.carss@castlepeak-group.com**

For a discussion about this opportunity please contact James Carss on **07802 531040**.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 20 November 2026**.

Interviews will be held on **Thursday 3 December 2026**.



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