

# Burness Paull



GOVERNANCE CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Practical, Precise & Versatile

[burnesspaull.com](http://burnesspaull.com)

# SPECIALIST GOVERNANCE ADVICE

- Team of four consultants with exceptional experience in corporate environments
- Embedded in the company secretarial community and with a depth of knowledge of the practical issues faced by businesses and their stakeholders
- Ability to work flexibly for specific projects and for longer term requirements
- Support from Burness Paull's dedicated team of 12 company secretarial and governance specialists

For details contact:



**Gary Gray FCIS**

HEAD OF COMPANY  
SECRETARIAL SERVICES

**e** [Gary.Gray@burnesspaull.com](mailto:Gary.Gray@burnesspaull.com)

**t** +44 (0)131 473 6103

**m** +44 (0)7525 038 501



**Walter Clark FCIS**

PARTNER

**e** [Walter.Clark@burnesspaull.com](mailto:Walter.Clark@burnesspaull.com)

**t** +44 (0)131 473 6195

**m** +44 (0)7810 877 311



## David Elston

- Huge depth of experience as a company secretary and legal adviser in PLCs, mutual and private businesses, particularly in the financial sector
- Recent work includes with Santander on its ring-fencing project, and as full-time interim Company Secretary for Standard Life Assurance as part of the Phoenix Group

### Areas of focus include:

- Advice and support to boards / committees, and managing stakeholders
- Interim governance / legal roles at senior level (full-time / part-time)
- Corporate governance reviews and corporate structuring advice
- Advice on company law, including adherence to corporate codes and conflicts of interest



## Sheelagh Duffield

- Corporate governance specialist who has worked at board level for over 20 years
- Held senior executive roles at Scottish Power plc, Scottish Television plc and The Miller Group, advising their boards through organisational change and delivery of complex corporate transactions

### Areas of focus include:

- Director induction training on appointment and refresher courses for all directors regarding duties, responsibilities and compliance with relevant governance codes
- Company secretarial advice and training on governance and meeting management, including minute taking, board paper design and agenda planning
- Review and design of company secretarial and in-house legal team structures and processes
- Board evaluation services, provided through Sheelagh's consultancy, Savendie Limited



## Donald McPherson

- Former Group Company Secretary of FTSE-listed Alliance Trust plc, with extensive experience of operating in large listed companies in the financial services and energy sectors during periods of rapid change
- Experience of development and delivery of robust governance frameworks for listed companies, as well as successful management of major corporate projects and business initiatives

### Areas of focus include:

- Planning for AGMs and other shareholder events / corporate actions
- Preparation for and response to activist campaigns
- Share registrar reviews
- Board support, including pro-active and pragmatic advice to chairs, non-executives and executives



## Jennifer Adams

- Experienced pensions lawyer, pension scheme secretary and independent pension trustee
- Former legal director of Aegon UK plc, with extensive experience in the financial services industry

### Areas of focus include:

- Independent secretariat services for pension scheme trustee boards, on ongoing or ad hoc basis
- Experienced support for trustee projects such as adviser reviews / selection, administration outsource / transition, benefit buy-in/out and board effectiveness reviews
- Support to in-house pensions managers / teams, both ongoing and project-based
- Company secretarial support to corporate pension trustees
- Independent trustee services, either as part of a trustee board or sole trustee
- Support to employers in efficiently and effectively fulfilling legal obligations on pensions