

# Simon Devitt



**Academic qualifications:** BA Hons

**Other positions held:** Visiting Lecturer in Housing Studies - South Bank University and Westminster University (1990, 1992/1993)  
Board Member, Richmond Fellowship 1993-1996, 2005 -2008  
Chaired Governance Review and selection panel for recruiting new Chair (2008)  
Former Secretary and Chair of the London Borough's Development Group (8 years)  
Co-Author of the North London Borough's Framework Housing Development Strategy (2003)

## Summary of experience:

A2Dominion Group – Group Director, Home Ownership & Strategy - October 2008 (date of merger) to Feb 2010 - Member of Executive Management Group, Member of the Executive Group of APlus New Homes (private house building arm of the Group.), Member of Group Development Executive responsible for the scrutiny and approval of Group Development and Regeneration Programme (currently 1,500 homes; £250m p.a. ) Responsible for the strategic planning and delivery of shared ownership and private development sales and marketing –600 homes pa. Responsible for business intelligence and strategy, investigating non-traditional funding and business development opportunities. Responsible for policy and strategy for Temporary Accommodation operation – 1,400 homes including 400 homes owned by the Group

Chief Executive, Optimum Housing – Sept 04 – Oct 08 (Dominion Housing Group, February 2006 - Optimum became part of the Dominion Housing Group in February 2006). Responsible to the Board for the strategic management and development of Optimum Housing .. Member of Project Appraisal Group responsible for the scrutiny and approval the Group Development Programme. Responsible for the Group's Temporary Accommodation operations– 1,800 homes including 400 owned by the Group. Responsible for the Group's key worker operation – 1,000 homes. Responsible for planning and delivering the Group's sales programme (900 sales p.a.; £10m surplus in first tranche sales at the peak output). Responsible for Business Intelligence and Strategy including non-grant funded business

opportunities

Housing Association Manager Westminster City Council - 1992 –2004 - Managed London's largest local authority funded housing association investment programme (in excess of £140m over the period) ensuring expenditure and outputs achieved in accordance with annual plan and budget. Development and adoption of the Affordable Housing Policy. Implementation of the policy. Responsible of negotiations with housing developers to deliver homes and investment. Worked with Social Services and Health Authority to identify new specialist provision. Project Manager for joint venture to provide new older persons care scheme and dementia unit. Responsible for research, development and implementation of key worker policy. Responsible for all aspects of housing association/Housing Corporation liaison

Programme Policy Manager, The Housing Corporation - 1991 -1992 - Manager of the Programme Planning Team and member of the Programme Department Senior Management Team. Responsible for developing policy context and planning the allocation of the Housing Corporation's £1billion Approved Development Programme. Liaison with the Department of the Environment to agree funding priorities and output targets. Working with regional offices to agree and deliver regional programmes.

Principal Development Officer London Borough of Islington - 1987 – 1991 - Managed the Development & Special Needs Team, Lead officer for special needs housing and Care and Repair project. Chair of housing design review panel. Responsible for housing association/Housing Corporation liaison.

Westminster City Council 1985 – 1987 - Principal Housing Association Officer - Manager of the Housing Association section. Responsible for investment decisions for housing association capital programme and budget, annual review of housing association performance. Member of the Divisional Management Team, responsible for liaison with Housing Corporation and housing associations.

Church Housing Association 1981-1985 – beginning work as Area Housing Manager, promoted to Development Officer, rising to Project Officer and finally Area Development Manager - Successfully establishing new development programme for south-east region of the association. Responsible for the management and delivery of programme from inception to completion.

Housing Management Officer Paddington Churches Housing Association 1979- 1981 - Responsible for the housing management within a designated area.

London Borough of Barnet - Allocations Officer 1977 – 79 and Press and Information Officer