

Leonora and William recommendations

There are five candidates for the co-opted positions on the Board. Three of these candidates, Kristina, Andrea, and Jackie Myers, are outgoing Board members who have served on the Board for several years. Additionally, two new candidates have been nominated for co-option: Necdet Ozturk and Francis McDonagh. Necdet runs the Nar Café and recently took over its management in April, while Francis is a freeholder on Woodberry Grove.

The Communications Vice Chair recommended that interviews for the three outgoing Board members—Kristina Zagar, Andrea Anderson, and Jackie Myers—were not necessary, as the Board is already familiar with their contributions over the years. Please note that this approach was also taken in previous years for co-option interviews, and the rest of the Executive Committee did not object to this recommendation.

William and Leonora, the two Executive Committee members, conducted the interviews for the new nominees, please see below the outcome of the interview:

1. **They have recommended Francis as a co-opted for the Board.** Having lived on the WD Estate for 25 years, Francis brings a deep understanding of the community and its evolving needs. His long-standing residency, dating back to 1999, coupled with his active participation in various Board meetings, demonstrates his strong commitment to the estate and his desire to contribute more meaningfully to WDCO.

Francis is also an active member of the local Labour Party, where he has engaged directly with residents through door-knocking and outreach efforts. This hands-on approach has given him valuable insight into the concerns and issues facing residents. As a freeholder, he brings a unique perspective, further diversifying the viewpoints within the Board.

Before retiring, Francis worked in international development, with organisations such as Oxfam, and held positions in various parts of the world. His professional background gives him a global perspective, a strong sense of social responsibility, and experience in working with diverse groups, which will be beneficial to the Board.

In his own words, Francis sees his initial role as one of learning—understanding the Board’s priorities and issues—and contribute to the Board where needed.

2. **They have also recommended Necdet Ozturk as a co-optee for the Board.** Necdet took over Nar café, in April 2024 and has since identified key areas for improvement in the retail space on Woodberry Down. He recognises the need for businesses on the estate to receive support from WDCO and the partners and is motivated to join the Board to provide representation for the local retailers. His goal is to serve as a voice for these businesses.

Necdet’s background also brings a unique perspective. Formerly a captain of a ship, he managed projects aimed at improving energy efficiency in boats. This experience has sparked his interest in energy-efficient building practices, particularly concerning

the new homes and developments on the estate. His passion for sustainability will be a valuable asset in discussions about the future of Woodberry Down. Necdet is also eager to help foster a stronger sense of community on the estate. He would like to set up community initiatives, such as a chess club, to bring residents together and encourage social interaction.

With his combination of business acumen, leadership experience, and community-oriented vision, we believe Necdet will make a valuable contribution to the Board and the wider Woodberry Down community.

The panel has also recommended Jackie Myers, Kristina Zagar, and Andrea Anderson for co-option. They have served on the Board and the Executive Committee for several years, making significant contributions to various working groups, including the Design Committee and Blocks D. They have also been actively involved in the community, demonstrating their commitment to its continued growth and improvement.

There are two RESERVED PLACES for co-option: one designated for the recognised Leaseholders' Association within the area, although no active Leaseholders' Association currently exists, and the other reserved for commercial interests in the designated area. The panel recommends Necdet for co-option under the commercial interest category. There are also four NON-RESERVED PLACES, for which the panel recommends Francis, Andrea, Kristina, and Jackie for co-option.