

Elaine Rowlands

Resources Committee and is the link governor for HR.

Elaine is an experienced HR professional having spent more than 30 years in operational and strategic HR roles. She has worked in several sectors including manufacturing, market research and IT. During her career, Elaine has been responsible for all aspects of HR including Learning and Development, Recruitment, Talent Management, Employee Relations and Organisational Design. Her most recent role was as Group HR Director for a global IT company where she was a member of the senior executive team involved in taking the company through an MBO. Having spent 20 years in her last role, Elaine decided to take (very!) early retirement at the end of 2021 and is now planning to spend her free time doing the things she loves most: travelling, walking, cycling, playing tennis and enjoying time with family and friends.

Elaine's greatest sense of achievement throughout her HR career came from working with colleagues and helping them develop to achieve their full potential. In particular, she has always been passionate about the development of young people and equipping them for the world of work; she has been instrumental throughout her career in introducing and managing apprenticeship, undergraduate and graduate schemes.

Elaine grew up in Kent and although still misses living close to the sea, has been happily settled in Stratford for over 25 years. She studied Science and Social Science at university before embarking on her HR career, initially in a highly scientific/technical organisation. Despite leaving science after graduating, Elaine is still fascinated by science and medicine.

