

NEWS RELEASE

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Three new directors join ITS (UK) Council

The UK's Intelligent Transport Society, ITS (UK) is welcoming three new directors to its council in order to help run the membership organisation.

Andrew Pearce of Jacobs is the new Finance Director, replacing Hogia's Gary Umpleby who has stepped down after many years in the job. Abigail Oakley of PA Consulting takes over from Amey's Ian Faddy-Widman as Young Professionals Director while longstanding International Director Richard Harris has stepped down and is replaced by Cubic's Niosha Kayhani.

Andrew Pearce's day job is running the Technology practice at Jacobs' smart highways and smart cities teams in 13 offices from London to Dubai. "Governments across the world are really waking up to the potential and need for technology in transport, and ITS (UK) is uniquely positioned to access this global market as the UK's formal representative in the ITS European and World Congress network," he says. "I want us to do a great job for our country promoting British talent and ideas on this world stage, making sure UK plc gets connected to the right opportunities. As Financial Director I hope to keep us in good shape to do that".

Abigail Oakley is a Consultant Analyst at PA Consulting in their Transport, Travel and Logistics sector after joining 19 months ago. She says, "Having helped several organisations bring together transport and technology, I am keen to continue this and ITS (UK) provides a platform to do this. In addition, by being ITS (UK) Young Professional Director, I plan to encourage other young professionals to join the transport industry, and in particular ITS (UK), exercising both existing and new channels to do this."

At Cubic, Niosha Kayhani is the technical lead responsible for delivering impactful innovation to the public transport industry specifically focused on payments, user experience, accessibility, passenger flow management and security. He adds, "Cubic Transportation Systems' Innovation Centre may be located in the heart of London but we identify opportunities worldwide and our research and development is focused on delivering globally applicable solutions. Disruptive technologies and innovation require alignment early from multiple stakeholders and this could mean transit agencies and authorities globally. As the International Director for ITS (UK), I want to help drive alignment across borders, promote UK innovation globally and encourage others to be part of the strong ITS network that has the ability to share best practices and knowledge in a market which is starting to see rapid changes."

ITS (UK) Secretary General Jennie Martin commented, "Our Directors in Council provide the Society with priceless support and expertise and I'm so grateful to all of them, and give special thanks to Richard, Gary and Ian for their work over the years. What is very exciting about our new Directors is the added diversity they bring to our team, which can only help ITS (UK) continue to lead the conversation about intelligent mobility."

The full Council line-up is:

President - Steve Norris
Ambassador - Eric Sampson, Newcastle University
Chair - Ian Patey, WSP
Vice Chair - Ryan Hood, TRL
Communications Director - Krishna Desai, Cubic
Finance Director - Andrew Pearce, Jacobs
Membership Director - Graeme Scott, IBI Group
International Director - Niosha Kayhani, Cubic
Technical Director - Fraser Sommerville, SNC Lavalin Atkins
Young Professionals Director - Abigail Oakley, PA Consulting

Ends

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Notes to editors:

ITS UNITED KINGDOM, the UK association for the promotion of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), is a not-for-profit public/private sector association financed by members' subscriptions, and provides a forum for all organisations concerned with ITS. We work to bring the benefits that ITS can offer in terms of economic efficiency, transport safety, and environmental benefits to the United Kingdom - and at the same time expand the ITS market. The membership, around 150 UK organisations, comprises Government Departments, Local Authorities, consultants, contractors, manufacturing and service companies, and academic and research institutions. Members benefit from ITS United Kingdom activities including seminars, workshops and regular news dissemination. ITS United Kingdom encourages discussion on issues such as public/private co-operation, standards, legislation, information provision and new technology.