



Press Notice: 27 January 2012

APPOINTMENT OF NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Three new Non Executive Directors have been appointed to the Planning Inspectorate. David Clements, Janet Goodland and Valerie Owen were appointed by the Rt. Hon. Greg Clark, Minister of State, the Department for Communities and Local Government and John Griffiths AM, Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, Welsh Government.

In welcoming the appointments, Sir Michael Pitt, Chief Executive, the Planning Inspectorate, said: "I would like to welcome our new Non Executive Directors onboard. The Planning Inspectorate is currently entering an exciting phase of transition. David, Janet and Valerie each bring a wealth of expertise and significant experience of leadership in the private and public sectors. They join us during a period of continuous improvement and their independent judgement will be invaluable in helping us to shape a more efficient Planning Inspectorate".

One of the first challenges for the new appointees will be to oversee the smooth transfer of the Infrastructure Planning Commission's functions to a new national infrastructure unit created within a restructured Planning Inspectorate, in April 2012.

Sir Michael added: "The new Non Executive Directors are as committed as I am to ensuring that there is a seamless transfer to the new arrangements. They will drive innovation within the organisation, achieve efficiency and productivity gains, and assist the Inspectorate in responding to the Localism Act."

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. The Planning Inspectorate is an Executive Agency in both the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Welsh Government.
2. The Inspectorate's mission is to use its impartial expertise in planning and land use to help shape well planned environments and deliver sustainable development. In dealing with planning and other casework it follows the principles of fairness, openness and impartiality.
3. A more efficient and streamlined Planning Inspectorate is in the process of being established. This will include a new national infrastructure directorate to replace the Infrastructure Planning Commission which will close in April 2012. The Unit's role will be to examine applications from developers for consent to build national infrastructure projects. It will make recommendations to the relevant Secretary of State, who will make the decision.

4. The Non Executive Directors will bring a wider, independent perspective to contribute to the future development of the Inspectorate and improve the rigour of the Board process. David Clements was appointed on 12 December 2011. Janet Goodland and Valerie Owen's appointments started with effect from 1 January 2012.

Non Executive Directors

VALERIE OWEN

- Working career entirely in private sector but with an extensive Non Executive Director portfolio in the public sector.
- Managing Director of Le Vaillant Owen from 2004 – a consultancy specialising in sustainable development and regeneration. Prior to that Managing Director of London First, dealing with economic development across housing and health.
- Earlier roles included being a Director in Jones Lang LaSalle responsible for maximising investment returns on major property portfolios and an Equity Partner in Shenstone & Partner specialising in town planning applications for commercial developments.
- Non Executive Director roles (all on-going to 2012) for the Church Buildings Council, Dover Harbour Board, East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust and the Environment Protection Advisory Committee.

DAVID CLEMENTS

- A chartered civil engineer with more than 40 years experience in the engineering and construction industry, David has an extensive and wide-ranging background, latterly with a specialisation in PFI and PPP projects.
- Now retired from full-time employment, David's last executive role was as a member of the WS Atkins plc Group Executive Board, responsible for the company's PFI and PPP project developments and also for its Facilities Management business. He is currently a Non Executive Director of Partnerships UK plc, a Public-Private Partnership which is 49% owned by the Government, East Anglian Student Tenancies Ltd and since 2010, the Infrastructure Planning Commission. He has also held non executive directorships of Lambert Smith Hampton plc, Driver Group plc, Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and a large number of PFI project companies.
- Prior to joining Atkins, David had a wide-ranging career in engineering and construction in the UK and overseas including 20 years with the Balfour Beatty Group and a period with the Biwater

Group before heading up a venture-capital backed consultancy business, Wootton Jeffreys Consultants, which he sold to WS Atkins in 1994.

JANET GOODLAND

- Recently retired from a career in the rail industry spanning the period of change from a nationalised industry to private sector companies. Previous roles include Director, Network Development in Network Rail, Head of Business Planning in Railtrack and senior management roles in British Rail.
- Led the sponsorship and development of the £5.5bn Thameslink, involving close liaison with Government departments and other public and private sector organisations.
- Member of CBI London Council 2001-2011, promoting improvements to London's infrastructure and changes to planning legislation.

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