

# Need to Sell (NTS) Scheme Panel Membership

The NTS panel considers applications to the NTS and makes recommendations to the Secretary of State for Transport on whether or not to accept an application (and hence, whether or not the Government should buy the property in question). Each panel meeting has a quorum of three independent members (one of whom chairs the meeting). These members are drawn from a wider pool of independent panel members. Details of each panel member are set out below:

## *Colin Chapman*

Colin Chapman is a solicitor who specialised in criminal law, working for most of his career as a prosecutor for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), and as a Chief Crown Prosecutor for 12 years until he left the CPS in 2011. He now sits as a lay member of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal, a judge of the Social Security and Child Support Tribunal, and is the independent chair of Norfolk's Safeguarding Children Board.

## *Sir Stewart Eldon*

Sir Stewart Eldon is a former diplomat who ended his FCO career as UK Permanent Representative to NATO. He now has a number of roles, including sitting as an Independent Member of the Parole Board for England & Wales, advising the respected NGO Transparency International on counter-corruption in defence and security and consulting on dispute resolution and mediation.

## *Emeritus Prof. Brian Gomes da Costa*

Emeritus Professor Brian L. Gomes da Costa is the former principal and chief executive of Bath Spa University. Since taking voluntary 'early' retirement from that role, he has pursued a portfolio career, which has included membership of: the Asylum & Immigration Tribunal; the General Medical Council's fitness to practice tribunals, in which he served between 2000 and 2012, latterly as a presiding panellist; and, currently, the Standards Committee of the Bar Standards Board. He has also served as the chairman of a North London mental health NHS trust and is a lay assessor for the Academy for Healthcare Science. He has been a magistrate (now Supplemental) since 1977.

## *Owen Grainger*

Owen Grainger is a valuer and chartered surveyor with over 45 years' experience in the profession. He is a former senior valuation lecturer and was a founder member of the Valuation Faculty Board of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). Owen serves on the Executive, and is a Council member, of the Independent Surveyors and Valuers Association. He established his own practice, dealing with a variety of residential and commercial property-related issues, in 1979 and also acts as an expert witness in both civil and criminal courts, as well as in various tribunals.

## *Dr Stephanie Green*

A former port medical officer at Heathrow Airport, now member of the Independent Family Returns Panel scrutinising the work of the UK Border Agency. Member of the First Tier Tribunal of the Child Benefit and Social Security Chamber, hearing appeals into benefit eligibility, and consulting doctor for several sexual health charities, including Marie Stopes International.

## *Mary Hope*

Mary Hope has worked as a Lay Assessor for Judicial Appointments and now sits on the Board of an Arms-Length Management Organisation, and runs a business providing HR consultancy, executive recruitment, coaching and training.

### *Jo King*

Jo lives in Surrey and combines roles in the voluntary sector with work as an independent consultant. Her professional history includes being a director of a technical consultancy company specialising in post- battlefield area clearance, provision of information and analytical services to governments, non- governmental organisations and manufacturers. Her voluntary role uses her skills in making reasoned judgements based on evidence, assessing evidence and rapidly analysing complex oral and written information.

### *Belinda Knight*

Belinda Knight has a background in the financial sector and civil service, and now runs her own company specialising in employment law and human resources consultancy. She is an ombudsman with the Financial Ombudsman Service. She also sits on Employment Tribunals, Police Misconduct Hearings, and a number of regulatory bodies.

### *Alison Miller-Varey*

Alison Miller-Varey is a mediator of civil and commercial legal disputes, having practised previously as a barrister. Alison's specialist areas include real property, contentious trust and probate, breach of contract and professional negligence. Alison also sits as a lay panellist of the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service.

### *Andrea Palk MBE*

Andrea Palk served for over 16 years in the Royal Air Force as a personnel and training officer. She served in a variety of roles in numerous locations, including Afghanistan. After leaving in 2010, she joined the Royal Air Forces Reserves as a training specialist and continues to work part time in this role. In addition, she sits as a military service member of the War Pensions and Armed Forces Compensation Chamber.

### *Brian Stewart OBE*

A Chartered Town Planner by background, Brian is now a portfolio non-executive director and consultant, following a 27 year career in local and regional government, 17 years of which were at Chief Executive level. With previous experience as an NHS non-executive director and a charity trustee his current portfolio includes being a main board member for a large housing association group, chairing the board of a subsidiary registered provider, and chairing a community forum of stakeholders interested in a major nuclear power project in Suffolk.

### *Caroline Stirling*

Caroline Stirling is a solicitor and specialised in pensions law for several years. More recently she has been working on a self-employed basis as an ombudsman for the Financial Ombudsman Service.

### *Laurelie Walter*

Laurelie Walter has more than 20 years' experience of property valuation and other property- related activities. She has been an active member of the London Residential Property Tribunal Service since 1985. In 2005 she was appointed a panel member of the Crossrail Discretionary Purchase Panel and was appointed to the Thames Tunnel Exceptional Hardship Scheme in 2012. She runs her own design and project management business.

### *Edward White*

Edward qualified as a solicitor in 1994 and worked initially with local government, extensively advising local authorities on regulatory practice, housing appeals and fair quasi-judicial procedure, including the transition of licensing functions from magistrates to local authority jurisdiction. Subsequently Edward worked as a consultant adjudicator for the Tenancy Deposits Scheme, one of three national schemes regulating private sector housing deposits. In addition to HS2 Ltd, Edward currently sits as an associate hospital manager with Sussex NHS Partnership Trust considering Mental Health Act appeals, and as a panel member with Sussex Primary Care Trust considering applications for medicines and medical funding. Edward also sits as lay member adviser to the Sussex Area Prescribing Committee, an advisory body for NHS clinical commissioning groups in the Sussex area.

### *Graham White*

Graham White was a circuit judge until December 2012 and continues to sit as a judicial member of the Parole Board. In high street general practice as a solicitor, he was a member of the Council of the Law Society and Chair of its Criminal Law Committee.

### *Colin Wilby*

Colin Wilby has a varied business background in manufacturing industries, working in senior human resources, operations and chief executive positions. He now holds a portfolio of non-executive and adjudication roles, which has included appointments in the NHS, Probation Services, and the RICS. He is currently the chair of a housing association and a member of the Employment Tribunals, Bar Disciplinary Tribunals and Financial Reporting Council Tribunals. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development.

### *Roger Wilson*

Roger Wilson is a Chartered Architect with a practice spanning 35 years specialising in housing, conservation areas, listed buildings and urban planning issues. He has been a Planning Inspector in England and in a similar vein, a Reporter to the Scottish Government over a 12 year period. He is also an Architect member of the Architects' Registration Board Professional Conduct Committee.