

## NRPSI strengthens its executive team with a new appointment

**2 February 2015:** The National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI) has appointed Nick Whitaker, currently a partner at BDO LLP, to its Board\*.

Nick, who officially took up his seat on the NRPSI Board on 1 February 2015, is a Chartered Accountant with a background in corporate finance. During the course of his career he has provided expert counsel on corporate governance and finance to public sector and not-for-profit Government organisations such as the Transport Research Laboratory. He has worked as advisor to various Government departments including the Department of Industry, Department of Transport, Cabinet Office, National Audit Office (NAO) and HM Treasury. His experience of working with Central Government is extensive and includes working on privatisations as well as being engaged by the NAO to evaluate the financial cost of Government using consultants. Nick has also been the Treasurer of a number of not-for-profits including the charity Peaceworkers UK, now part of the larger agency International Alert.

Ted Sangster, Chair of NRPSI: *“Nick is a very welcome addition to the NRPSI Board. His financial and corporate governance expertise will be vital in helping us to fulfil our obligations and objectives. His deep understanding of the workings of Government will also be invaluable in helping us to build stronger relationships with Government, thereby increasing recognition for NRPSI as the independent regulator of the public service interpreting profession.”*

On taking up his appointment Nick Whitaker said: *“I look forward to the opportunity of working as part of NRPSI to preserve and advance the public service interpreting profession. As a member of a profession, I value professionalism and believe in the benefit of maintaining standards for the greater good. Through the course of my work I have experienced the inconsistency in the quality of public service interpreting available. I gladly offer my expertise to helping NRPSI increase the quality of public service interpreting available to users and obtaining recognition for the valuable role that qualified interpreters play in our increasingly multi-cultural society.”*

**ENDS**



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### Editors' notes:

\*The NRPSI Board of Directors consists of seven Non-Executive Directors – four lay members and three NRPSI registered practitioner members – who each serve a three-year term:

- Ted Sangster Chair, and lay member
- Ann Mealor, lay member
- Steven Thacker, lay member
- Nick Whitaker, lay member
- Lalia Pessoa-White, practitioner member
- Hassan Sobati, practitioner member
- Silvina Katz, practitioner member.

### **About National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI):**

The National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI) is the UK's independent voluntary regulator of professional interpreters. By maintaining interpreting standards it safeguards the public. All NRPSI registered interpreters, there are currently 1,900 covering 100 languages, satisfy rigorous entry criteria in terms of qualifications and experience, and demonstrate their commitment to professional standards by signing NRPSI's Code of Professional Conduct. While NRPSI is a voluntary regulator, its powers allow it to discipline and, ultimately, exclude someone who breaks its Code of Conduct. In this way it can ensure interpreters on the Register, which is publicly available and searchable online, are appropriately qualified, have the level of competence claimed and employ best practice. <http://www.nrpsi.org.uk/>