

NRPSI appoints a new chair and practitioner board member

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The National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI) is pleased to announce the appointment of Alan Kershaw as its new non-executive chair.

Alan, who joined the NRPSI board in 2021, served on the NRPSI Professional Complaints Committee from 2016 to 2021. He also played a role in establishing NRPSI as an independent entity in 2010-2011.

An experienced chair, NED and specialist in professional regulation, Alan has worked with regulatory and standards settings bodies across key sectors: law, finance, healthcare, property and science. Notably, he has chaired national regulators such as CILEX Regulation (Chartered Institute of Legal Executives) and currently chairs the Architects Registration Board.

Mike Orlov, NRPSI Executive Director and Registrar, said: *“I and colleagues have enjoyed working with Alan over the past few years. His knowledge of professional regulation and understanding of the public sector make his contribution to NRPSI’s strategic objectives utterly invaluable. Critically, Alan’s familiarity with NRPSI and passionate belief in what it stands for will ensure we don’t miss a beat in building on what we have achieved over the past decade under outgoing Chair Ted Sangster’s leadership.”*

Alan Kershaw said: *“I am honoured to be invited to become chair of NRPSI, building on the sound foundations laid by Ted Sangster and the team over the past ten years. Public sector interpreting requires a high degree of specialised skills, often in complex situations with high levels of liability. It is vital that the courts, the police and others can readily identify those who have demonstrated their fitness for this skilled work, and the best way of assuring that is by engaging only with independently regulated Registered Public Service Interpreters.”*

He added: *“I am looking forward to working with my colleagues to secure universal recognition of the National Register and registered language professionals’ proven skills and experience.”*

The NRPSI board also welcomes new non-executive practitioner board member Phil Muriel.

A member of NRPSI since 2007, Phil recently joined the NRPSI’s Qualifications Committee. An experienced and highly qualified interpreter and translator, Phil holds the Diploma in Translation (Law/Business), the DPSI in Law and the DPSI in Health. He is also a qualified tutor, having delivered interpreter and translator training since 2009, and an experienced lecturer who regularly speaks on interpreter-related subjects.

Mike Orlov said: *“We are lucky to have Phil join the board. His extensive practitioner experience and commitment to furthering public service interpreting standards and the profession are inspirational.”*

Phil Muriel said: *“I am delighted and privileged to be offered a place on the NRPSI board. The National Register listens to interpreters and speaks to various public services on our behalf. In so doing, it amplifies and unifies our voices. The more NRPSI Registered Interpreters there are, the louder our collective voice! I look forward to contributing to the Register’s work, helping to raise its profile with colleagues and the public to achieve proper recognition for our profession with full protection of title.”*

ENDS

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Editor’s notes:

The NRPSI board of directors consists of seven non-executive directors – four lay members and three NRPSI registered practitioner members:

- Alan Kershaw Chair, and lay member



- Steven Thacker, lay member
- Nick Whitaker, lay member
- TBC, lay member
- Lalia Pessoa-White, practitioner member
- Madeleine Lee, practitioner member
- Phil Muriel, practitioner member

About NRPSI

The National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI) is the UK's independent voluntary Regulator of the public service interpreting profession. Funded by Registrants' fees, it is a not-for-profit organisation. By maintaining interpreting standards, it safeguards the public. All Registrants – there are currently around 1,800 covering approximately 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 a Registrant who breaks its Code of Professional Conduct. In this way, it can ensure that interpreters on the National Register, which is publicly available and searchable online for free, are appropriately qualified, have the level of competence claimed and employ best practice. <http://www.nrpsi.org.uk/>