Nominations for Transport Planner of the Year 2017

1.   Luis Willumsen , Consultant and former Director of SDG

Nominated by Tom Van Vuren, MottMacDonald

Some consider transport modelling as the remit for geeks; however, increasingly there is a recognition in the transport planning profession that modelling is actually highly political, and that the skills required by good modellers are not just analytical; but also include presentation and public engagement.

As a result, the Transport Planning Professional qualification recognises that transport modelling is a key competency for a qualified transport planner, at Experience level or above. It has been important for our profession, and for the recognition of the TPP qualification, that there is good and accessible material on modelling available for aspiring TPPs, written by an expert who understands that transparency and simplicity are critical; both for non-modellers to understand and appreciate the need for and value of transport models, and for modellers to receive the recognition for their expertise.

Personally, I can also find no better ambassador for good practice in theory and in practice in the transport modelling profession than Luis (Pilo) Willumsen. Based in Britain since 1975, he started as a researcher and lecturer at Leeds University and then at University College London. As everyone knows, Luis wrote the seminal book on transport modelling (Modelling Transport), which is now in its Fourth Edition. Not quite JK Rowling, but still no mean feat in such a specialist area, and it illustrates how he managed find the right balance between technical detail and practical usefulness.

In 2014 Luis wrote another book. If he had not written it, it should have been written, and it could have not been written by a better specialist than him. "Better traffic and revenue forecasting" has a much more practical focus and also guides the reader towards more responsibility for the forecasts made with models, including discussions on scenario testing, the need for accuracy rather than precision, and the issues of uncertainty and risk.

Luis is also visible and engaging in social media, where he initiates and leads many of the LinkedIn discussions on good use of transport models and the professional's responsibilities in demand forecasting.

Finally, all those who know Luis, will know that despite his achievements and near-rockstar status amongst transport modellers, he is a thoroughly nice guy, a good egg, a true colleague, who is always willing to contribute to workshops and short courses that aim to educate and train young transport planners. For example, he lectured at two of my 'Transport Modelling for Managers' courses, which aimed to provide aspiring TPPs with an insight into transport modelling to a Knowledge level.

Transport modelling is no longer a backroom activity; it is rightly recognised as one of the essential and most complex aspects of transport planning with increasing visibility at policy and political level. It would be fitting to recognise Luis Willumsen for his life-time contribution to best practice, in the UK and across the world.

2.   **Nicola Kane, Transport Strategy Manager, Transport for Greater Manchester**

Nominated by Keith Buchan, TPS Board Member

I would like to nominate Nicola Kane as Transport Planner of the Year for her work leading the production of the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040, published in February 2017. The strategy is an exemplar of a thoroughly joined up approach between land use and transport and the integration across modes within transport planning. The impact of new technologies and patterns of travel which result are fully embraced by the document. The programme of public engagement was undertaken with care and understanding of the difficult issues involved in urban transport and in view of the impending changes in governance, how it is funded. She has since presented the strategy and its approach to a wider audience including the DfT and has won the respect of academics for using "vision and validate" rather than "predict and provide". She has brought an outcome driven attitude into a local government context which is fully reflected in the new strategy and in the proposals for monitoring progress. She is also working to develop her team's skills through active engagement with training and staff development and is already a TPP. The skills shown were not only in inspiring the team to work on the strategy but clearly to have provided leadership in the spirit of the multi-disciplinary but rigorous approach which underpins the best of transport planning.

3.   **Lucinda Turner, Director of Planning, TfL.**

Nominated by Victoria Hills, CEO Old Oak & park Royal Development Corporation, TPS Chair 2009-2011.

Lucinda is a rare find in the public sector, a star performer who's stuck the course during three Mayoralships in London, driving forward new standards of transport planning excellence in London. Lucina leads TfL's input into planning policy development including the London Plan and Mayor's Transport Strategy; Promoting role of transport projects in supporting housing and wider economic growth, developing/appraising transport policy to fulfil London's economic development objectives;

She is an expert on economic and socio-economic aspects in the consenting process of major projects and developing/implementing innovative approaches to strategic and economic case making for transformative transport projects. Lucinda is one of the most conscientious and professional transport planners I know, but beyond that Lucinda is passionate about what she does. She really does care about integrating transport and land use and she has risen through the TfL ranks to recently take on the role of Director of Planning. In a field where women still have to made a significant impact at the senior level, Lucinda has proved how hard work and dedication are rewarded. TfL is now a globally respected leader in transport planning and Lucinda's contribution to that over the last decade has played a significant role in TfL's success. Previously Lucinda was Head of Infrastructure for the CBI and Policy Manager for the Millennium Commission. Her contribution to transport planning is worthy of recognition and I commend her to be considered to be transport planner of the year 2017.

4.   Neill Birch, SYSTRA

Nominated by Ingrid Petrie, Principal Consultant SYSTRA Ltd

Neill has over 30 years' experience in the industry and is an expert in the field of bus operations and planning. His in-depth operational experience, subsequently combined with his current career in transport planning, has provided him with an often unique perspective. This has resulted in Neill being tasked with improving bus operations across the globe, in places as far afield as Almaty and Qatar. In such projects, he has been responsible for disseminating best practice abroad, increasing the prestige and awareness of British expertise, and also bringing back new ideas to further enhance the UK transport market, making recommendations for future-proofing the market through conference papers and presentations, client and Government advice.

Neill really cares about people and making sure that they maximise their potential worth. He ensures that more junior members of staff benefit from his experience and expertise and is a fervent ambassador for staff mentoring and personal development. As such, he was the key driver behind setting up the Professional Development Scheme in SYSTRA Ltd ensuring that mentors were trained and competent, thus formalising our junior staff development programme that has benefitted numerous members of staff in their career progression within transport planning.

5.   Peter Moth, TfL

Nominated by Gesine Junker, | Principal Urban Design | Crossrail 2

The nomination is endorsed by Isabelle Adams, Crossrail 2 head of scheme development, TfL.

Peter Moth is the principal sponsor on Crossrail 2 responsible for the southern section of the route including stations at Clapham Junction, Wimbledon, Tooting Broadway / Balham and King's Road. I would like to nominate Peter for two main achievements: his sterling work in dealing with these very complex stations, numerous stakeholders and ability for lateral thinking. He considers the design for these major transport projects in a way that positively engages a wide set of technical and professional interests, such as commercial development, construction logistics or public realm. As part of this approach, Peter has developed and championed an assessment framework to aid in the consideration of different design options. This framework provides a basis to consider issues in a holistic and balanced way, including considerations relating to costs, redevelopment, transport integration, constructability, urban regeneration and environmental impacts. The assessment framework has been pivotal in driving the project to refine its options and define high quality and sustainable solutions, while providing a robust basis and record to support decision making.

The energy to develop the assessment tool has comes from Peter's evident commitment to create a world class transport system and continuously seek to improve the design. Peter also gives sound leadership and direction and he is very approachable, team oriented and fun. He is a great ambassador for the profession.'

6.   **Susan Claris, Arup**

Nominated by Stephen Bennett, ARUP and TPS Board member

This year Susan created, developed and launched a groundbreaking report promoting walking as a mode of transport: Cities Alive: Towards a Walking World -www.arup.com/walkingcities. The report documents the benefits of walkability and suggests actions that can be taken, illustrated with case studies. It was launched to global acclaim and is changing the industry's view on planning for walking and walkability.

Susan also plays a leading role in promoting diversity in transport planning; she has recently been Chair of Arup's diversity initiative to improve gender balance and she has a particular interest in raising the profile of women in the transport sector, for, by example, speaking at conferences, contributing to press articles etc.

Outside Arup, Susan is a Trustee of Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking.

All of this makes Susan a great ambassador for the profession – our very own 'passionate pedestrian'.

Background:
Susan's thirty year transport career has focused on public sector clients, including Highways England, the Department for Transport, the Office for Low Emission Vehicles, the Welsh Government and various local authorities. Susan has also worked on research activities in Arup, e.g. urban mobility for the World Economic Forum's SlimCity initiative and urbanisation for Arup's Drivers of Change programme. Susan led Arup reviews of the UN-Habitat Global Report on Human Settlements 2013: Planning and Design for Urban Mobility. Arup was a strategic adviser to the C40 group of cities and Susan was project manager for "UrbanLife" workshops. Prior to joining Arup, Susan worked for the Department for Transport in London.
Transport has been a passion for Susan throughout her life – choosing cars over dolls as childhood toys – and her first job was as a petrol pump attendant [all true she tells me!!].

7.   **Claire Cheriyan, TfL**

Nominated by Laura Putt, TfL and TPS Board member

Claire works in the Strategic Analysis team at TfL. In the last year, Claire's Air Quality analysis has enabled fast-paced policy development to drive an ambitious programme – a new emission surcharge, introducing the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) earlier, and expanding the ULEZ.

Claire has used traditional modelling as well as pioneering innovative techniques to ensure policy development is evidence-led (in pressured political circumstances). For example incorporating new data sources to estimate vehicle compliance and how people are likely to respond to schemes.

To deliver this work, Claire set up a multi-disciplinary team combining survey work, traffic modelling, economic assessment and air quality modelling.

Claire has recognised the unique nature of London's ULEZ assessments and been proactive in collaborating with others who could benefit from this experience. She has shared methodologies

with Defra, DfT and the Clean Air Zone cities; allowing others to use TfL's data and build on what's been done.

As an industry expert, Claire has recently presented at events in Mexico and Paris - the aim being to share policy work and innovative approaches. Claire also provided expert advice to legal teams assisting the Mayor with the successful legal action against the Government to ensure the National Air Quality Action Plan is fit for purpose in meeting air pollution limits and protecting people's health.

Whilst air quality hasn't always been regarded as a popular topic, Claire has been a good ambassador, pushing it up the agenda in recent years and it is now a political priority.

8.   Barry Colleary, National Transport Authority (NTA), Ireland

Nominated by Tim Morton, TPS Board member

Barry has key responsibilities for transport planning at a national level within Ireland.

Most recently, he developed a new vision for a consistent and robust approach to transport modelling, assessment and appraisal within the NTA (the strategic transport authority for Ireland) and developed a Regional Modelling System which is now the standard tool for transport modelling throughout Ireland for both schemes and local plans – for use by all local authorities, other state bodies and private developers.

Barry used his technical skills to specify a state-of-the-art modelling approach and his leadership and communication skills to achieve nationwide buy-in to his vision. He led the roll out of the Modelling System including development of a comprehensive user toolkit and workshops, presentations, training and guidance. The models are informed by available data from an ongoing programme of Airport Surveys, Household Surveys and Traffic Surveys etc., all of which Barry specified and commissioned.

The Regional Modelling System is set to revolutionise the quality of transport planning and appraisal in Ireland and to achieve a new level of professionalism there.

Barry is active in other spheres. He is a member of the Environmental Protection Agency (Ireland) National Overview Committee to select and oversee environmental research and he is a member of the Transport Modelling Committee of the Association of European Transport. He has also been instrumental in developing TPS' activities and presence in Ireland.

Barry has made an exceptional contribution to the development of transport planning professionalism in Ireland. No-one could have done more.

(While not necessarily a reason for selecting Barry as Transport Planner of the Year, I point out that if he were to be selected, that would be a strong endorsement of TPS' commitment to supporting the transport planning profession in Ireland and would give a considerable boost to the confidence of our newly formed branch there.

9.   **Kevin Travers, Hampshire County Council**

Nominated by Dominic McGrath, Hampshire County Council and TPS Board member and Kathy Slack, Director of the EM3 LEP

Kevin is a highly experienced transport planner. He is currently seconded from Hampshire County Council to the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership and has been the 'voice of transport' within the LEP for the last four years. Kevin is an exceptional individual who is able to demystify and put in simple terms the linkages between differing transport solutions and the impact of the economy. He has a deep seated belief in the benefits of sustainable transport and has done much to explain these linkages in simple terms and has the ability to "tell the story" about the impact we could have by stimulating changes in behaviours in the way that people travel. He has done much to promote the importance of transport within the economic growth agenda and is a champion of the importance of supporting sustainable transport within the mix. He has a deep passion for solving transport issues and is excellent at explaining what is needed to professionals and to local residents. He does this modestly with not a huge amount of fanfare but his matter of fact style, his ability to judge exactly what the audience needs and his desire to play a positive part in this change has resulted in high levels of positive feedback.

Kevin has helped position the Enterprise M3 LEP as one of the leading LEPs in terms of not only what it is doing but in the way the LEP works with others – now called "the Enterprise M3 way". He has developed the policy approach of the LEP on transport and prepared the LEP's policy lines that sit within their Strategic Economic Plan. He has then worked to deliver the objectives of the SEP by working with partners on key projects that transform places – Basingstoke, Guildford and Woking are all examples where you can already see the difference the transport improvements are making.

With Kevin's involvement the LEP has established and effectively deployed a Sustainable Transport Fund of £2m per annum for the life of the current growth deal. He has brought together a wide range of partners public and private to grapple with what needs to be done and has influenced operators to develop win:win solutions. Stagecoach, one of the local bus operators have commented that the LEP are in a class of their own in their positioning and understanding of sustainable transport and the genuine involvement with partners – Kevin has played a key role in stimulating this change.

Kevin's expertise was recognised when he was asked to give evidence to the House of Commons Transport Committee earlier in the year promoting the message of sustainable economic growth. He has also taken a leading role in the commissioning and delivery of a key strategic study – 'Influencing Strategic Transport in the South East' (https://www.enterprisem3.org.uk/news/influencing-strategic-transport-south-east). This is a joint commission on behalf of four LEPs in the South East region, working in close co-operation with the Highway Authorities. This work will now contribute to the developing work of Transport for the SE.

Kevin has embraced the challenge of building effective partnerships across the transport sector and is widely respected in his LEP role. Prior to his secondment he has worked in policy roles for a number of local authorities.

10.   Christopher Lovewell, TfL

Nominated by Chris Mills, TfL (previous TPS Board member)

Chris is a Principal Transport Planner in TfL's Planning team and has been at the forefront of TfL's contribution to addressing the housing shortage, through his work on the initiation and planning of major station upgrade projects in London. He has shown tremendous leadership in developing a programme of growth and regeneration-led projects and has been highly successful in making the case for a number of schemes, securing significant levels of public sector funding at a time when budgets are under ever tighter pressure. A key facet of Chris' success has not only been his involvement in making the case for key schemes – overseeing the transport modelling, directing the engineering and cost aspects, managing the schedule, writing the strategic case – but his exemplary collaborative approach, which ensures buy-in from the full spectrum of stakeholders, including local authorities, strategic regeneration and private sector partners, as well as high profile political figures.

This year, Chris led and presented the White Hart Lane station upgrade project before Haringey Council's planning sub-committee. He was successful in securing a unanimous decision to grant planning permission.

Chris was instrumental in ensuring the quick deliver from planning to implementation. When construction commences on White Hart Lane in September, two of Chris' projects will be on site simultaneously; Chris also secured planning permission for the Tottenham Hale station upgrade project. In total, these two projects will be the catalyst for 10,000 new homes and 5,000 new jobs in one of the most deprived areas of London.

11.   Chris Moores, Transport Planning Manager, Tfl

Nominated by Nazir Moya, Business Operations Manager
Crossrail 2, Transport for London

See attached pdf file