# **TransportPlanning** *Society*

# ELECTION TO THE TPS BOARD 2021 NOMINATED CANDIDATES

# PLEASE VOTE FOR FIVE OF THESE CANDIDATES USING THE ATTACHED BALLOT FORM

#### 1. Alexis Edwards MRTPI MTPS

Alexis has worked as a planner in various roles since 2006, and currently leads a Transport Development Management at BCP Council proving transport advice on planning applications. He recently led work on the Western Gateway's Rail Strategy, and BCP Council's Parking Standards SPD. Alexis is an active member of the RTPI, and is currently the RTPI SW Honorary Secretary.

#### 2. Tom Van Vuren

I have been a TPS member since the start and take great pride in being a Chartered Transport Planning Professional. The Society plays an important role in ensuring that transport planning is recognised as a profession, an important profession carried out by dedicated and well-trained and accredited practitioners.

As a Board member I intend to champion three things:

- 1. Continuation of previous Boards' efforts to increase the visibility of transport planning as a career, for example by being more evident on social media and in the non-technical press and related to pressing societal challenges.
- 2. Reviewing and improving the relevance of the Society for all transport planning professionals, making membership more attractive locally and value-added over just something to sign up for as part of the Professional Development Scheme.
- 3. Publicly celebrating successes of members (individuals and member organisations) to support the above two objectives.

#### 3. Rose Yorke Barber

Transport planning is a wonderful profession that I feel fortunate to have found. It plays a fundamental role in issues I care about strongly: environmental quality, community, health and equity. The Transport Planning Society (TPS) promotes awareness and appreciation of this rewarding profession, championing and facilitating best practice and high-level policy. I want to be a board director to be actively involved in furthering these causes.

Equitably tackling the climate crisis through policy is my main area of expertise. I recently received a distinction in my MSc Global Energy and Climate policy and was a TPS bursary finalist for the climate crisis topic, producing a research paper on monitoring carbon emissions. I hope to support TPS initiatives to further the dialogue, innovation, practice and policy in this field, for example with involvement in COP26. I

am currently leading the monitoring of Islington Council's ambitious low-traffic neighbourhood programme.

#### 4. Jonathan Mottershead

I'm a multi-modal Transport Planner, with eleven years experience working across both Public/Private sectors. I hold an MSc/BA-Hons in TP from Leeds University ITS.

My career has gone full-circle. Having started as a graduate in Manchester, I moved to London due to a lack of TP opportunities at home. 8 years later I've returned North at a time National/Local bodies are realising the central role TP plays in enabling growth, creating sustainable communities and recovering from COVID-19.

To capitalise on the current spotlight of transport in reblancing the economy, I propose developing TPS by:

- Promoting TPS across the North-West/Yorkshire region leading initiatives linking private/public sectors with academia for knowledge-share and developing regional TPS policies.
- Focusing on skills/qualifications (including retaining graduates within the North) encouraging people through PDS/TPP, ensuring sub-national bodies adopt these qualifications as standard.
- Supporting TPS in influencing local and rural transport policy, innovation and funding.

### 5. Nichola Byrne

Nichola Byrne is an Associate Transport Planner with almost eight years' experience in consultancy, largely focused on public sector strategic transport planning.

Nichola completed the Professional Development Scheme to achieve Incorporated Transport Planner in 2019, then Chartered Transport Planning Professional in 2020. She is now a PDS/TPP mentor to three early career professionals at WSP. She has a keen interest in promoting continued professional development.

At WSP, Nichola was Birmingham Office Lead for the early career development Professional Growth Network. At Mott MacDonald prior to this, she was UK Transport lead for the Young Professional Excellence network and worked with the Chartered Institute for Highways and Transportation to support the setup of the Transport Planning Apprenticeship Scheme.

Nichola's enthusiasm for professional development and interests in future mobility, decarbonisation and transport policy, to shape future transport planning, make her an ideal candidate for the Transport Planning Society Board of Directors.

# 6. Geoff Burrage

The climate emergency and the need to build a greener, fairer post COVID society are huge challenges but I am both excited and optimistic about the central role our profession will take in responding. I am a transport planner with 19 years' experience across public and private sectors and I believe the key to responding to these challenges is to un-pick car dependence through rethinking how we plan, design, build and manage new and existing places. Furthermore, we cannot build sustainable places

that reflect the needs of society if our profession does not reflect its diversity. The TPS should play a key role in encouraging underrepresented people into the profession – such as people of colour, women and people with disabilities.

As a board member I will help the TPS reach out, engage, educate and motivate existing transport planners to deliver positive change while working to increase diversity in the industry.

### 7. Georgia Corr

As a transport planner at the London Borough of Ealing I lead on a range of behaviour change programmes to encourage active travel. Additionally, I am studying a part time Transport Planning MSc at the University of Westminster.

In 2019 I was announced as the TPS bursary winner and had the pleasure of presenting my research at the TPM and TP Day. The support and encouragement the society has shown me has inspired me to stand as a Board Member so that I can help provide similar opportunities to other young professionals. If elected, I would like to do further outreach work with Universities to inspire the next generation of Transport Planners and raise the profile of the Society. Further, the pandemic has highlighted the importance of building digital communities, I would also seek to foster new online methods to connect transport planners, helping to reimagine the lost physical connections.

#### 8. Kitti Zsobrak

I was encouraged to apply by Jo Ward, who leads the annual Bursary Competition which I entered in 2019. Being part of the competition allowed my passion for Transport Planning and climate change to thrive whilst affording me the opportunity to work with like-minded members of the society.

Travelling and living in different countries, I've developed a deep interest in how others live and operate. I believe that by looking at examples from around the world, talking and learning from each other, we can create a better transport system. My aim is to help other members take a more active role in the society, getting their voices heard and helping us find solutions to the ongoing challenges we face in the industry.

Whilst I only have three years of experience in Transport Planning, I believe that with my passion for creating a better world I can enhance TPS's exceptional work.

#### 9. Andrew Potter

Andrew Potter BSc CEng MBCS CITP MTPS started transport planning just before "Roads for Prosperity". He worked with Atkins in the UK and overseas, had 7 years in operational and planning roles with Royal Mail before working with Mouchel, Parsons Brinckerhoff, wsp and latterly a smaller consultancy supporting mainly the public sector.

His intent for TPS is to learn more about how it works and meet the many who make it a successful society. Longer term he wants to help get it more established as part of government process. He will look to support and develop the work-to-date to create a process for the profession to take a greater role in steering, educating and advising politicians and senior advisors. TPS can give them access to considered, informed and professional opinion. He wishes to help ensure our collective and diverse interests, and expertise, are used more.

# 10. Christopher Mills MRTPI

Senior Associate, Stantec

I am an urban and transport planner with over 20 years of work experience, around half working as a consultant and half working for TfL.

I have been a Director on the Board of TPS previously, including Financial Director (2011-2014), and look forward to another opportunity, volunteering to organise debates, social events, looking after the accounts and administering TPP. I will bring the same enthusiasm and now have a wider range of experience to bring to TPS.

I support the TPP qualification and see its positive impact on staff development. I will happily become involved with its expansion. I would also like grow TPS membership in universities, starting at South Bank University where I currently teach Sustainable Transport Planning.

As an RPTI member, I see it important to maintain the good relationship TPS has with land-use planning organisations. I will look into greater collaboration with the RTPI.