

NATIONS, REGIONS, GROUPS & FORUMS

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VOLUNTEERING WITH CILT

Meet Nick Richardson FCILT

I have been involved with CILT since I joined in 1994 to broaden my experience of transport and to meet likeminded people. With professional organisations, it is important to contribute in some way rather than expecting the Institute to come up with something of interest. By volunteering, I have discovered how a complex organisation works, how its charitable status is fulfilled and how to manage change. All these activities have proven useful in my own career in a much larger business. In meeting and working with a range of other volunteers, the opportunities to learn have been huge and I make every effort to support colleagues to get involved in the early stages of their working lives.

My co-option to the CILT(UK) board representing transport planning interests has given me a wider understanding of what the rest of the membership contributes and what they want from the Institute. It is easy to pursue particular areas of interest, particularly in a digital world, so seeing how

other professional interests are involved helps to complete the widest possible view of transport. The board is managing some extensive changes to the business, and as one of its directors and as a trustee of the charity I am looking forward to the organisation's future.

I have a number of volunteer roles. I am Chair of PTRC's board, an organisation I have known for many years by attending its courses and the annual Transport Practitioners' Meeting. I also chair the Bus and Coach Policy Group, which is particularly helpful in understanding practical passenger transport matters, in addition to the activities and policies associated with transport planning, and I contribute to the Public Policies Committee, which brings together a wide spread of interests. The Institute provides a forum for debate to understand others' views and although I do not always agree with them, evidence-based debate is always helpful. More recently, I have taken on the role of chairing the Nominations

Committee, which reviews applications for key roles to help morph the organisation into one that is fit and ready for the future.

Over the years, I have taken on roles with professional organisations as an integral part of my professional life, because it expands knowledge and experience and puts me in touch with a wide range of contacts. Now there are many opportunities for volunteers and we are encouraging members – including those who have not been involved before – to become involved in whatever way they wish. Adopting a committee role, contributing individual views and working alongside other volunteers at a regional, national or international level brings fresh ideas and ensures that the Institute remains relevant to its members. Any grade of membership is valued and volunteering opens doors.

Nick Richardson FCILT

Chair, CILT Nominations Committee.



✓ There are many opportunities for volunteers at CILT

