

New Government Projects Chief Unveiled

The Infrastructure and Projects Authority (IPA) announces Nick Smallwood as its Chief Executive and Head of the Government Project Delivery Function

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Today (1 July) Government continues to build a world class project delivery system that is fit for the future, by appointing a permanent replacement to lead the delivery of major government projects.

Nick Smallwood, former Vice President for Projects Engineering and Chief Projects Engineer at Shell, will become IPA Chief Executive in August.

He joins the IPA with 37 years' experience of managing complex project portfolios and having developed Shell's Global Project Academy, where he was accountable for managing how projects were delivered and a variety of significant improvement programmes.

Nick is also a trustee of the board of the Association for Project Management (APM) until November 2019, where he contributes to the overall development of the UK's project management profession.

This appointment follows the departure of Tony Meggs in December 2018, who became Chairman of Crossrail to help the project complete its final delivery phase.

The IPA is the government's centre of expertise for infrastructure and major projects, reporting jointly to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Minister for the Cabinet Office.

The IPA oversees the Government's Major Projects Portfolio, which contains around 150 of the Government's biggest and most complex projects, and the National Infrastructure and Construction Pipeline, which contains projections of £600bn of public and private infrastructure investment.

The IPA supports the delivery of these projects by helping set them up for success, setting the standards for how they should be delivered, building delivery capability in departments and industry, and providing commercial expertise and independent assurance.

Oliver Dowden, Minister for Implementation, Cabinet Office, said:

"I am pleased to welcome Nick to the Cabinet Office and am looking forward to working with him in delivering some of the government's top policy priorities."

John Manzoni, Chief Executive of the Civil Service and Cabinet Office Permanent Secretary, said:

“The IPA is home to one of government’s most important cross-cutting Functions. If Government’s projects aren’t delivered successfully, then our policy agenda can’t be implemented.

“I’m thrilled that Nick will lead the IPA. Now more than ever we need experienced project leaders in government, putting deliverability at the heart of government policy.”

Charles Roxburgh, Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, said:

“We are growing our economy by investing in the infrastructure and capital projects the country needs.

“Nick is joining the IPA at a critical moment as it helps ensure our investment is delivered on time and on budget and represents value for money for taxpayers.”

Nick Smallwood, IPA Chief Executive, said

“Government is delivering an ambitious portfolio of major projects that will transform people’s lives and the IPA has already made significant strides in building a world class regime that supports them.

“I want to focus on improving performance and taking our system to the next level.”

[Nick Goodwin appointed as Public Guardian](#)

The new Public Guardian for England and Wales and Chief Executive of the Office of the Public Guardian has been announced.

[Nick Goodwin appointed as Public Guardian](#)



Nick Goodwin, Public Guardian and Chief Executive of the Office of the Public Guardian.

Nick Goodwin, formerly the Ministry of Justice's (MOJ) director for access to justice policy, has taken over the role of Public Guardian following the retirement of Alan Eccles.

He was successful in fair and open competition for the role and his appointment has been approved by Justice Secretary David Gauke.

Nick has previously headed up teams leading on mental capacity policy at MOJ and has worked closely with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) before.

He said:

I am delighted to take on the role of Public Guardian and Chief Executive of the Office of the Public Guardian. I know from my prior experience of working on mental capacity policy just how important the work of OPG is in protecting those who have already, or may in future, lose their mental capacity and also in supporting those who care for them.

He also said:

I have been greatly impressed by the dedication and expertise of all the staff I have met and worked with at OPG and just how far the organisation has developed under Alan's leadership. I look forward to working with staff and its stakeholders to improve its vital services, so that we can deliver on the ambitious and user-centred agenda OPG has set itself.

Alan Eccles [retired on 30 June](#) after seven years as Public Guardian and OPG Chief Executive and more than 30 years as a barrister.

Published 1 July 2019

Last updated 4 September 2019 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 4 September 2019 Added translation

2. 1 July 2019 First published.

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