

Board of Directors



Bernard Fairman
Executive Chairman

Appointed
24 February 2010

Background

After leaving 3i Ventures where he was responsible for sourcing, evaluating and negotiating investments, Bernard co-founded Foresight Group in 1984 to raise a new fund for investment in unquoted technology companies based in the UK, the United States and France. He is now Foresight Group's Executive Chairman with over 40 years of private equity and infrastructure experience. He is responsible for the strategic direction and management of the Group, including its IPO in February 2021. He has achieved this through organic growth and acquisitions, with the Group attaining a leading position in the UK small cap private equity and international infrastructure markets.

Bernard's extensive experience provides him with a deep understanding of private equity and infrastructure investments and great insight into the opportunities for Foresight Group as well as the challenges that it may face. He is well placed to continue to lead the Board and develop and drive the Group's strategy, culture and values.

External directorships

Beau Port Investments Limited.



Gary Fraser
Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operating Officer

Appointed
3 February 2021

Background

Gary joined Foresight in 2004 and is the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer based in the London office. He has over 27 years of experience and is ultimately responsible for Group finance and operations, providing and facilitating specialist financial input into corporate, portfolio and investment decisions across the business. He also works closely with the boards of the various Foresight managed funds, listed and unlisted, and has been key to various corporate actions, including mergers and acquisitions, rights issues and restructuring. Gary works alongside Bernard in relation to strategic planning and business development, including acquisitions. Gary previously worked at F&C Asset Management as a company secretary, where he focused on legal and tax compliance, financial compliance, technical and financial reporting and corporate finance. He also worked at EY, focusing on audit and risk assurance, and corporate finance.

Gary's strategic and decision-making skills are fundamental to his roles as CFO and COO in driving the Group forward to achieve its strategic goals. His involvement with the boards of Foresight's funds is also key to their success and the Group's.

External directorships

Averon Park Limited (a Foresight managed entity).



Alison Hutchinson, CBE
Senior Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed
3 February 2021

Background

Alison is a highly experienced director, who brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Board gained from her strong background in both IT and retail financial services. Alison started her career at IBM and became global director of online financial services before joining Barclays Bank and then specialist mortgage provider Kensington Group PLC as managing director and then group CEO. She has a keen interest in people and is our workplace representative; she also chairs our Employee Forum.

Alison is also CEO of fintech charity The Pennies Foundation (which she founded in 2009) working with retailers to enable digital giving and serves as the senior independent non-executive director at DFS Furniture plc and Yorkshire Building Society.

In 2016, Alison was awarded a CBE for services to the economy and charities.

External directorships

DFS Furniture plc, Yorkshire Building Society and Your Penny Limited.

Board of Directors continued



Geoffrey Gavey
Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed
31 May 2015

Background

Geoff joined the Foresight Group Board in 2015, pre-IPO, as a Non-Executive Director. The Board benefits from his experience in the finance industry as a service provider, including his extensive offshore regulatory knowledge and experience in risk management.

He is the managing director of FNB International Trustees Limited (“FNB”) and deputy head of banking for FNB Channel Islands Bank. He also sits on the audit and risk committee of both FNB International Trustees Limited and FNB Channel Islands Bank.

Geoff was formerly a director of Fairbairn Trust Company Limited, a subsidiary of Old Mutual, and worked for Lloyds Bank International in both Guernsey and Gibraltar.

External directorships

Ashburton Investments International Holdings Limited plus various directorships of companies serviced by FNB for its clients.



Michael Liston, OBE
Independent Non-Executive Director

Appointed
3 February 2021

Background

Formerly Chief Executive of the electricity utility Jersey Electricity plc, Mike is the Non-Executive Chairman of JTC plc and brings to the Board the benefit of his extensive experience across public and private sector businesses.

Mike has also held a number of non-executive roles including Chairman of AIM-listed Renewable Energy Generation Limited and was formerly Chairman of The Jersey Appointments Commission, established by the Government of Jersey to ensure probity in senior public sector appointments. He was elected to the judiciary of the Royal Court of Jersey in 2012, retiring from this position in 2017.

In 2007, Mike was awarded an OBE for services to the electricity industry and charity.

External directorships
JTC plc chairman

Board skills

In line with the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Code, the Board and its Committees have identified the skills, experience and knowledge (“Skills”) considered appropriate to support and develop Foresight.

The below skillset chart shows the combination of those Skills held by the Board members as at the year end.

A more detailed skills matrix is maintained internally, which drills down into each of the listed areas to better understand the nature of a Board member’s skills. This enables the Nomination Committee to better assess the Board’s skills versus the needs of the Company and is a useful tool in relation to succession planning and recruitment.

Board skills

Executive/Strategic	
International	
Sector/Industry	
Operations	
Financial	
Governance, Risk, Compliance & Legal	
Sustainability/Climate	
People & Remuneration	
IT/Cyber	
Sales & Customer Service	
Product Development & Marketing	

