

# 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 one of the leading positions 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 Finance Officer based in the London office. He has over 30 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 and the Group's success.

## 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.

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

## External directorships

DFS Furniture plc.

Board of Directors



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.

During the year, Geoff retired as managing director of FNB International Trustees Limited (“FNB”) and deputy head of banking for FNB Channel Islands Bank. Additionally, he 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**  
None.



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 has identified the skills, experience and knowledge (“Skills”) considered appropriate to support and develop Foresight.

The below skillset chart shows the skills held by the Board members as at the year end.

A more detailed skills matrix is maintained internally, which enables the Nomination Committee to better assess the level of the Board’s skills and experience, and compare them to the needs of the Company. It is also used in succession planning and in recruitment, by seeking to address any skills/ knowledge gaps.

Experience of business growth and business development					
Senior leadership					
Recent and relevant financial experience					
Strategic capability					
Risk management experience					
Knowledge of ESG and climate change issues					
Business continuity and crisis management					
Cyber/technology					
Previous/other board experience					
Industry/Sector					
People					



For more information on the Board and its Committees please scan here.