

Peter L R Hewitt, JP, Chartered FCSI, FRSA



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Peter is a business leader and communicator with extensive experience at PLC board level having been a director of 13 public companies, chairing 8 of these including 7 years as Chairman and CEO of an AIM quoted construction and FM business, which he founded. Peter has recently been appointed Chairman of a fully quoted property PLC following removal of the majority of the board at EGM in order to assist with the recovery.

Peter has substantial experience in Government and Political Affairs having been a senior elected independent politician in the City of London (Alderman). Peter frequently interacts with diplomats' and Presidential delegations and was, inter alia; the inaugural Chairman of the City's £20m Social Investment Fund and a member of numerous committees including the Property and Financial Investment Committees (£6bn).

As an innovator, Peter has a track record of driving organisational change utilising his creative mindset to find solutions that are outcome focussed. He has a unique ability to dissect and solve complex corporate problems whilst being an accomplished negotiator as a result of 40 years of 'hands on' business experience.

Peter is a member of HMG's Taskforce on Retail Social Investment and is former advisor to the Financial Services Department of UKTI where he wrote a number of papers on trade opportunities in Latin America.

On the 1st April 2019, Peter was appointed an Honorary Group Captain in 601 (County of London) Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force where he has the specific role of partnering with both the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff and the Base Commander of the RAF's largest base and key transport hub, RAF Brize Norton. As well as providing advice, Peter also acts as an ambassador for the Royal Air Force.

Current positions:

- **Vordere PLC** (Oct 2019 – current) **Chairman**. A property company listed on the Official list of the LSE with assets of c£100m. Invited by shareholders to be Chairman following removal of the majority of the board by EGM.
- **Blackfinch Spring VCT PLC** (Nov 2019 – current) **Non-Executive Chairman**. A New VCT from award winning Fund manager Blackfinch.
- **Universal Defence and Security Solutions Ltd** (2019 – current) Co-Chairman. UDSS provides Defence policy, strategy and operational solutions for government, business and organisations.
- **Puma VCT 10 PLC** (2018 – current) **Non-Executive Director**, A VCT, from Corporate Finance house and Investment Manager, Shore Capital in 2010/11, listed on the Official List of the London Stock Exchange.

- **Brennan and Partners** (Mar 2017 – current). *Senior Adviser*. International consultancy and investment business with particular focus on LatAm trade advisory in Energy, Infrastructure, Real Estate, Healthcare and Education. My role is as an interlocutor on trade, investment and financial services issues in a region with which I have a long history of engagement, having undertaken research for the UK Government

Career History:

- **Armadillo Group Ltd** (2017 – 2019). *Non-Executive Director*. One of the world's leading corporate data and information services providers. Providing strategic advice on re-invigorating and re-building the company.
- **Basinghall Capital Ltd** (2017 – 2019) – *Director*. Boutique corporate finance advisory service.
- **City of London**, (2012 – Jul 2018). *Alderman* for the Ward of Aldgate. One of 25 elected Alderman, from whom are selected the Lord Mayors of the City of London. Chairman of the City's £20m Social Investment Fund. Committee member of both Financial and property investment boards with combined assets of over £5bn.
- **EH Global Capital Ltd**, (2016 – Jan 2018). *Director*. 18-month contract role to establish the FCA Authorisations (AIFM and corporate finance + MiFID) and internal systems for the company which was to act as the European and Global acquisition finance and fund management arm of HNA Group in China. EHGC had mandates to arrange the finance for \$3bn of global acquisitions.
- **Puma VII VCT PLC**, (2010 – 2016), *Non-Executive Director*, A VCT, from Corporate Finance house and Investment Manager, Shore Capital in 2010/11, listed on the Official List of the London Stock Exchange.
- **Proven Planned Exit VCT PLC**, (2010 – 2016), *Non-Executive Chairman*. A VCT, from award winning Investment Manager, Beringea. Raising funds in 2010/11, listed on the Official list of the London Stock Exchange. Achieved target income over the 6 year period.
- **UKTI**, (2014 – 2016). *Catalyst Member and Adviser* to the Financial Services Organisation. This role is ad hoc and includes capability building, broking and facilitation relating to individual projects, such as the Brazilian Capital Markets Project and Fin Tech. His task in July 2015 was to travel to South America with the Lord Mayor and identify opportunities for the UK in financial and business services and to produce an independent report which was published on the UKTI website and has formed part of FCO thinking going forward.
- **London Asia Capital PLC**, (2013 – 2015), *Non-Executive Director*. A former AIM listed company which raised £100m to invest in Asian companies. Invited by Chairman to assist with the recovery.
- **Close Brothers Capital Trading Co's** (1998 – 2011). *NED*: Fund grew from £10m to £150m.
- **In Stock Broking:**
 - **Rutherford Capital Limited and Rutherford Capital Markets Ltd**, (2007 – 2009) *Chief Executive and founder shareholder*
 - **Bishopsgate Capital Ltd**, (2006 – 2007) *Joint Managing Director, founder shareholder*.
- **In consultancy, advisory and turnaround** (2005/6 & 2009/13):
 - **SRI Capital Advisers**, *Senior Adviser*

- **DeBondo Energy Group**, *Corporate Adviser*
 - **Classic Security Limited**, *Interim assignment*
 - **Award International PLC**, *Interim turnaround assignment*
 - **Cornhill Asset Management**, *Interim consultancy assignment*
- **The Wigmore Group PLC**, (1998 – 2005) *Chairman and CEO*. Bought out a nearly 'insolvent' PLC with no turnover and minimal assets. Took board control as well as becoming a substantial shareholder, floating the company on AIM in 2002, raised funding and significantly improved the profile of the company through institutional and media coverage. Undertook reverse takeover of Speymill Contracts Ltd and exited from the Group in 2005, selling out to an MBI team, by which time the company had an annualised turnover of some £26m and some 450 staff including subcontractors.
 - **6 property investment PLCs** (1991 – 1998). *Director or Chairman*.
 - **Hewitt's Estate Agents**, (1978 – 1990). Set up own Estate Agency partnership (Hewitt's) aged 24, growing the business to 6 branches and sold the majority to Northern Rock BS.

Voluntary - current

- **601 (County of London) Squadron, R Aux AF**. *Honorary Group Captain* (2019-current)
- **Raleigh 400 Committee** (2017 – current) *Chairman and originator*
- **HMGs, Taskforce on Retail Social Investment** (2016 – current) - *Member*
- **Sea Change Sailing Trust** (2013 – current) *Appeal Patron*
- **ABF – The Soldiers Charity** (2014 – current) *Finance committee member*
- **Worshipful Company of Woolmen's Charitable Trust** – *Trustee and Past Master*
- **Guild of Entrepreneurs** – *Founding Freeman, Trustee and Master*

Professional & Skills

- Securities and Investment Institute Level 3 in Corporate Finance
- Individually Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Securities and Investment Institute (Chartered FCSI)
- Current 'Approved Person' by UK Financial Conduct Authority (CF30, CF10, CF11 and CF3)
- Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA)
- Member of the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation (CSFI)
- Member of the Securities Industry Management Association (SIMA)
- **Media** - Media trained in TV interviews and public speaking (interviewed on Bloomberg TV, radio, press, etc.)
- **Mentoring** - 40 years of experience in staff and colleague mentoring. Latterly mentoring a number of entrepreneurs and senior personell.

Interests

Sailing, motorcycling, aviation, antique restoration.