



Ben Handley

I am keen to challenge the status quo around Net Zero and Future Ready topics within the logistics sector. I am also passionate about how we can enhance the experience for our members (but understand the challenges they face today).

Tell us about yourself and your professional background, including why you want to be a Council Member:

Being interested in people, place and space through my geography studies, I became fascinated in Transport and Planning. For the last six years, I have been part of WSP's Development team, where day-to-day I work with developers delivering new sustainable developments across the country. For example, developers looking at last-mile logistics centres and engaged in freight and fleet management strategies.

In my spare time, I am an Army Reservist, which has given me a different perspective on how we can solve some of the challenges we face. Since June 2022, I have been a Council Member. Being interested in the governance side, I am passionate about how we can enhance the experience for our members (but also understand the challenges our members face in today's climate). I am keen to look at the CIHT from a different perspective and continue with this work.

How will your particular skills and experience benefit Council? Give some examples from your professional or personal life that show you have the right skill set to contribute to the work of Council.

The complex world of logistics has provided me with the platform to flourish as a young professional in our industry. Within logistics, the question is how we make freight sustainable from end-to-end given it has seen such an increase in demand. In my role at WSP, I work with developers looking at last-mile logistics centres placed within urban residential settings and engaged in freight and fleet management strategies. Though, this strategy may not be the right solution to cater for more rural communities.

My background in the Royal Logistics Corp has given me a true understanding of the importance of moving goods quickly from one point to another. From which routes to take and how to adapt in a challenging environment. But can we adapt from a civilian perspective in a similar way? Questions lead to new insights and I feel this contribution is key to the work of Council.

Professional Affiliations:

Member, Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation

Fellow, Royal Geographical Society

Education and Qualifications:

2013-2017, Newcastle University, BA (Hons) Combined Honours in Geography and Mathematics & Statistics with work placement

Present Post or Occupation:

WSP UK, Senior Transport Planner, October 2021 – Present

British Army, Reserve Soldier, December 2018 – Present

Past and Present Service to the Institution:

June 2022 to Present, CIHT Membership & Member Services Strategy Board

June 2022 to Present, CIHT Council Member

January 2023, Transportation Professional, Interview Article