

Association for Project Management Appoints KPMG Managing Director as First Female President

Sue Kershaw, managing director of major project advisory, to advocate for the profession

London, 18 July 2019 – Association for Project Management (APM), the chartered body for the project profession, has today announced the appointment of its first female president – Sue Kershaw, UK managing director of Major Project Advisory at consultancy firm KPMG.

As president, Kershaw (pictured at right) will advocate for the project profession, host the association's high-profile events and facilitate engagements. Commenting on the appointment, John McGlynn, chairman at APM said: "As a well-respected and high-profile project management practitioner and leader, we're delighted to have Sue as our first female president. She joins us during a period of ongoing growth, but also at a time when there are numerous challenges facing the project profession (including economic uncertainty, digitisation and transformation, and skills shortages). Her experience will be invaluable in supporting us to further help people and organisations to deliver better projects and also to promote our vision, mission and strategy to new and more diverse audiences."



The 2018-19 APM Member Review reveals the growth of the organisation. Almost 800 individuals have achieved the Chartered Project Professional (ChPP) status, including 495 within the first five months of the standard being announced in October. APM reported a 17 per cent growth in revenue and individual membership grew to nearly 30,000 (an increase of 16 per cent on 2018 figures).

Sue Kershaw, who is also UK head of infrastructure programme and project management at KPMG, said: "As the second woman to receive an APM Honorary Fellowship back in 2011, I have witnessed their fantastic efforts in driving change within the project management space.

APM's work has been essential in equipping people with the skills required to build successful careers in the sector and develop professional benchmarks that demonstrate attainment of technical knowledge, professional practice and ethical behaviour. I'm very much looking forward to getting started in the coming months, helping to shape the future of the sector and drive professionalism. I'm also keen to champion important professional issues like driving gender diversity in project management."

Outgoing President David Waboso, who himself made history as the first black and minority ethnic (BME) president of APM, said: "Three years ago when I took on the role, my ambition was to enhance APM's status as a body that supported the needs of the profession – and in doing so, further raise the profile of the profession both at home and abroad. Fast forward to today and I see great progress has been made and a profession that has grown in stature and strength.

Having secured chartered status, APM is now collaborating with an increasing range of bodies and is building the talent and capability of the profession. As such, we've significantly improved the delivery of the programmes – in spite of the increasingly complex nature of organisations and in an extraordinary economic climate.

It's been a true honour to be a part of APM's journey and I stand aside knowing that the association is on a skyward trajectory and in safe hands."

About Sue Kershaw

Sue Kershaw has become the first female president of APM in 2019; she was the second woman to be awarded APM Honorary Fellowship in 2011. A well-respected international and high-profile project management practitioner and leader, Sue holds the roles of UK managing director of Major Projects Advisory and the UK head of infrastructure programme and project management at KPMG.

Sue's previous positions include director of rail, Europe for CH2M HILL, director of programme management for Grosvenor Britain and Ireland, and deputy director of transport for the Olympic Delivery Authority, responsible for all rail and road transport for the games and the programme management of the wider portfolio.

Sue is an avid promoter of programme management as a discipline and is passionate about improving performance and visibility of the profession. She is fully supporting the engagement of industry, the engineering profession and education sector to close the critical skills gap in engineering and programme management. She also has a keen interest in regeneration and is a great supporter of improving London as a city for the future and was a member of the London Enterprise Panel. She was named visiting professor at the Bartlett School of Construction and Project Management at University College London (UCL) in 2019.

An advocate for the equality, diversity and inclusion agenda in her professional and voluntary work, Sue actively supports initiatives to raise awareness of these issues.

The APM president role is typically held for two-year terms - up to a maximum of five years.

About KPMG in the UK

KPMG LLP, a UK limited liability partnership, operates from 22 offices across the UK with approximately 16,300 partners and staff. The UK firm recorded a revenue of £2.338 billion in the year ended 30 September 2018. KPMG is a global network of professional firms providing Audit, Tax, and Advisory services. It operates in 154 countries and has 200,000 professionals working in member firms around the world. The independent member firms of the KPMG network are affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity. Each KPMG firm is a legally distinct and separate entity and describes itself as such.

About Association for Project Management

Association for Project Management (APM) is the [chartered body for the project profession](#) and is committed to creating and upholding leading standards for the profession through chartership, qualifications, knowledge and insight. Promoting the power of the profession for good, APM has over 30,000 individual members and more than 500 organisations participating in the Corporate Partnership Programme. As the largest professional body of its kind in Europe, APM advocates for and represents the entire project profession - all sectors, all locations and at every stage of the career path. See <https://www.apm.org.uk/> for further details. For more, contact: Nikki Alvey - PR Manager - Nikki.alvey@apm.org.uk 07973 354 706