

Oonagh Harpur



Since becoming the first woman CEO in her sector more than 30 years ago, Oonagh has worked tirelessly with boards in the public and private sectors to deliver results and build trust and integrity. Her experience shows that boards who govern well create more economic benefit for investors and can be a force for good, enabling a world where people can thrive across society; an ethos that is evident through her inspirational career history and many achievements and accolades.

Oonagh Harpur is an Independent Non-Executive at KPMG UK and a member of its Public Interest Committee. She is also a founding Fellow of Chapter Zero UK. She has a long career as a serial CEO, Chair, non-executive director and Trustee in the energy, health, financial and professional services sectors in the UK and USA.

As well as senior roles with BCLP, Oliver Wyman, Linklaters, and the NHS, Oonagh created and led the UK's first national entrepreneurship campaign and has advised numerous boards, chairs and CEOs on good governance including (list confidential) a leading financial regulator, DLAPiper, KPMG, Old Mutual Wealth, The Global Entrepreneurs' Organization and the Global eHealth Foundation.

Oonagh's current and recent roles include KPMG UK LLP, Independent Non-Executive; Walgreens Boots Alliance Advisory Panel on Sustainability, Member; Government Legal Department, Non-Executive Director; Chapter Zero, Fellow; The Crowd, Chair; Scientific and Medical Network, Trustee; and Senior Board Advisor (pro bono) to Tomorrow's Company and Blueprint for Better Business.

Oonagh has been a pioneer with a string of "firsts" including: drafting the first sustainable business report "Coal and the Environment" in 1982; first Non Lawyer CEO; CEO of the UK's first entrepreneurship campaign - a joint venture between government, the UK's leading business organisations and NGOs; establishing the first MBA for Professional Services Firms (PSF) and Sherwood PSF LTD the first consulting practice advising PSFs; City Values Forum, Board Member (2012-2017) - the Lord Mayor's initiative to restore trust and integrity in the City after the GFC.

Underpinning her career she has developed her knowledge and skills as a coach, facilitator and influencer to build trust and integrity, her knowledge and love of all things digital to improve efficiency and effectiveness of operations and her commitment to what is now called ESG leading innovation on climate as a Fellow of Chapter Zero and around the "S", social, to improve how businesses collaborate with and support each other and other sectors for the benefit of society.

Oonagh has been listed in Debrett's "People of Today" for over 15 years and Cranfield's 100 Women to Watch, for two years running.