

APM Assurance SIG committee nominations and supporting statements 2018-2019						
First Name:	Surname	What is your membership level?	Brief overview of your background and experience as a Assurance professional:(maximum 150 words):	What motivated you to put yourself forward for election to the Assurance SIG committee? (maximum 150 words)	What qualities, skills and experience do you think you'll bring to the Assurance SIG committee? (maximum 150 words)	How much time do you anticipate being able to spend on SIG activities in an average week?
Nigel	Bennett	Full	I am a current member of the committee and have around 15 years' experience in project assurance. As a practicing project manager, I would often peer review other bids and projects. When deploying a bid and project management method for an IT organisation that I authored, I defined an assurance regime and taught others how to assure projects. This led to me taking an operational role assuring the sales and delivery portfolios across emerging markets answering challenges such as "can we deliver this?" and "have we got the right people?". In recent years, as a consulting director, I help organisations improve their project, programme and portfolio management capability by offering smart, tailored assurance services based on organisational capability/maturity, individual competency and delivery performance and compliance. This includes oversight and assurance of my firm's related services and our assessor development programme.	Throughout my career, I've been motivated to "put something back" to both the people I work with and the wider profession. I have demonstrated this, for example, by coaching those who work with me and authoring best management practice. I see joining the Assurance SIG committee as a logical step on this journey. It is an opportunity for me to bring my assurance knowledge experience to the profession, to add to our body of knowledge and to further the cause of smart assurance. I have seen projects fail for reasons ranging from individual competence, through team dynamics to organisational capability. I believe that smart assurance can help. I also believe that it's never too late to stop learning. I therefore also want to keep on learning from the SIG itself in order to improve how I work with my team and how I deliver services to my clients.	I work with project staff to develop their competencies in project and programme delivery using coaching and training, reinforcing the message that assurance should be seen as a positive opportunity to improve and not as an overhead. I work with senior executives to help them understand the benefits of assurance, observing how behaviour change leads to improvements in organisational capability. I have designed and deployed project assurance approaches for clients ranging from simple compliance audits to integrated assurance regimes. Through working globally, I have seen first-hand how national, organisational and team cultures affect project delivery and understand its importance to designing and delivering assurance services. I've worked with the Cabinet Office and AXELOS Limited to author best practice including PRINCE2 2009 and 2017 editions, and P3M3 version 3 to ensure that the profession has the right tools to enable it to move forwards.	A few hours per month but possibly more depending on the portfolio of services I'm delivering at any one time.

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Julian	Harris	Full	Over 40 years engineering experience in safety critical industries. Lead auditor (trained and qualified) for almost 20 years and am still undertaking audits to maintain and develop project processes as well as learning and implementing new techniques. Have also supported the Assurance SIG previously in the generation of the 'Guide to Project Auditing'.	A desire to see the practice of Assurance in a Project environment continually develop and improve to reflect the ever changing role of Project Assurance in modern projects. In addition, to highlight the importance of the need of robust Assurance in a 'World where all projects succeed' and ensure that the appropriate guidance skills, qualifications and experience are available to the staff involved in the Assurance discipline and those reliant upon Assurance as part of their Project delivery.	Wide experience in quality arrangements in safety critical industries that require robust processes and arrangements and the appropriate training in the application of these processes and arrangements. I still am keen on developing and improving the role of Assurance in a Project environment and to assist those involved in the practice of Assurance.	@ 8 hours
Michael	Hermin	Full	I currently work for Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service as project manager for their strategic asset management programme. Previous project management roles, following my MSc at UUJ in Construction & Project Management include managing a housing association within Armagh for almost seven years, during which I increased the property portfolio by 53% and turnover by 132% as well as establishing a project office and attaining the Client's Charter standard. Afterwards, I completed a MBA in 2010, established a high street retail business for Warhammer products, which I operated for over two years, then closed in 2013 prior to marrying my wife in 2015 and have taken on various projects including employment with Mid Ulster District Council as a Cemetery Officer, combining their legacy data to a GPS management system followed by a Town Planning role. I believe I have a well-rounded project management understanding.	I'm familiar with project assurance processes having worked within social housing for the delivery of capital work schemes, which are partly funded by local government. Whilst I have previously been a Northern Ireland branch committee member up to 2003, my recent activities and interest is toward youth work. I've been a Prince's Trust business mentor and work shop facilitator for almost six years. I'm also an adult instructor and Company First Aid Trainer with the Army Cadet Force in Northern Ireland. The various project courses available don't necessarily combine the core elements of project management with project assurance, so I want to develop that platform within the Assurance SIG. Coming from a project management background and also as a volunteer with two national youth organisations, I also want young adults to identify with project management as a suitable career path. That's my Assurance SIG motivation.	I have worked at various levels within the project role, from an assistant special project manager when employed with Grahams to project leader at Gosford Housing. I try to learn from the best and also identify what project habits I should disregard. Having drafted and applied project assurance approaches, such as the current strategic asset management program I'm developing for Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, I know how important pilot studies can be, since the knowledge management is critical to the next stage. From a project assurance perspective, I've unfortunately witnessed too many mistakes occurring because the lessons from the previous project were not applied. So my project assurance qualities and experience include the theory and the practice.	As a minimum a few hours per month, which can always be increased depending upon an active SIG commitment.

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David	Lovitt	Full	I have worked in major IT and business change projects in Central Government for more than 20 years, and have been involved in establishing the public sector membership of APM for the last 10. I am an experienced Gateway Review Team leader, and have worked in regulatory compliance for many years.	Having recently retired from full time employment I am keen to help promote and develop the key principles and practices of the new profession. I want to make project assurance skills and knowledge available to a much wider audience across the total spectrum of projects.	I am currently a member of the ASIG committee, and have helped developed the ASIG business plans. I have extensive experience of planning, organising and delivering conferences and other collaborative activities, and am committed to sharing my experience with my fellow project professionals.	I am able to commit up to 2 days per week to ASIG activities.
Jonathan	Maxwell	Full	I joined Sellafield Ltd in 2016, appointed as Head of Performance Assurance within the Independent Performance Assurance Group; this role covers responsibilities for supporting the successful delivery of Programmes and Projects within the Site Infrastructure, Functions, ICT, Analytical Services and Transformation Portfolio through providing impartial guidance, assurance and support. Prior to this I worked for the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) as a Programme Manager responsible for Sellafield Site Infrastructure and Functions. This role involved performing intelligent customer responsibilities, leading and resourcing high risk Programme and Project assurance reviews, sponsoring and developing Business Cases through approvals and engaging Executive decision makers. Leading up to this I worked as a Programme Controls Manager for the NDA accountable for performance management and client oversight which included performance monitoring and assurance of major high hazard risk reduction Programmes and Projects. I am also an accredited IPA High Risk Reviewer, MAPM, Prince2 and MSP Practitioner.	As an assurance professional I am keen to improve the application and effectiveness of Portfolio, Programme and Project assurance as I believe strongly in the value of assurance as a critical enabler to delivery. The SIG is currently working on a number of work streams which both interest me and directly relate to my current role. I am hopeful that working with assurance professionals within the SIG will provide a platform to share and challenge my thinking on the subject of 'assurance'. I am keen to explore ways to objectively measure the impact and value of assurance; with a view to developing a basis of measure which can be applied to a range of assurance activities. I see this linking to the 'business case for assurance' SIG work stream. I am also interested in the development of 'Integrated Assurance' as much of my current scope falls within this arena.	I have experience of commissioning, leading and conducting Programme and Project assurance reviews across all lifecycle phases. I have also been on the receiving end of both assurance reviews and audits within the private and public sector. Consequently I believe that I can offer a balanced and informed perspective as to what constitutes a successful assurance review. I have hands on experience of assuring major asset care, construction, ICT and Transformation Programmes and Projects within complex and challenging stakeholder environments. I have a strong understanding of the technical and behavioural aspects of planning and executing assurance reviews including driving through consequential actions/recommendations. I have a good understanding of assurance in the wider business context and the critical relationship between assurance, governance and stakeholder management. I like to challenge the status quo to drive improvement and believe that I can provide support to current and future SIG work streams.	This will depend entirely on my level of involvement in current/future work streams and my existing workload. However as a minimum I will be able to support the monthly committee meetings and the twice annual gatherings held over a weekend.

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Roy	Millard	Fellow	Through different roles in engineering organisations, I have developed comprehensive knowledge and experience in engineering development and project & programme delivery. I know what a 'good project/programme' looks like, and have the ability to analyse projects & programmes and recommend how their chances of successful delivery can be improved. On a number of occasions, I have had the satisfaction of recovering projects from severe problems, and this has resulted in a deeper understanding of how to make projects & programmes successful. For the past 15 years I led TfL's Internal Audit assurance over their multi-billion pound Investment programme. I have a BSc(Hons) degree and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Management Studies (DMS); I am a Fellow of the APM and a full Member of the IET. I speak at conferences and seminars on the topic of assurance.	I established the Assurance SIG in 2007, and have led it ever since (except for a one-year break). There is still much I would like the SIG to achieve and am therefore very keen to continue as a Committee member (and as the Chairman).	Previous experience as the Assurance SIG Chairman since its inception.	One day per week.
Charles	Mills	Fellow	40 years project management experience gained in diverse sectors. Senior management experience (annual delivery accountability of C£150m) with a major client. Experience on both sides of the assurance fence. Accountable for assurance to LU standards of 5 stations being build by Crossrail each valued at c£750m	A desire to shape the development of assurance practice.	Very broad experience of hard and soft projects as a deliverer and a client. Active in the profession as a senior consultant in leading project management consultancy.	Average 1 working day per month over a year.
Christopher Michael	Mills	Full	I have over 25 years experience in project and programme management mainly in the public sector. I have spent much of this time working in PMOs providing assurance of project delivery and scrutiny of project business cases.	I have been working with the Assurance committee for nearly 6 months and believe I can make a useful contribution to thought leadership, events and conferences	I was on the PMO SIG committee for 2 years and helped to organise events and conferences. I have presented at one of the conferences and on numerous occasions for evening events in the branches. I am a good team player and enjoy organising events and participating in professional initiatives.	A couple of hours a week.

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Gary	Poole	Full	I have provided Programme & Project Management assurance and oversight across a varied spectrum of organisations both in the UK and abroad including Rolls-Royce, Goodrich, Fokker and most recently Meggitt. My broad background provides me a wide perspective on effective approaches to assurance gained over many years.	I was one of the SIG founder members but retired when I moved abroad with my career. On returning to the UK I rejoined the SIG and have been Secretary for a number of years. I believe that the work the SIG is doing is invaluable in enabling organisations to proactively manage risks within their business and maximise project success.	25 years hands on leadership experience providing assurance across of a wide number of sectors including aerospace, automotive, construction and business change gained across a broad spectrum of organisations	Typically around 10% (1/2 day) as an average across the year
Pamela	Stacey	Associate	Throughout my (long) career, I have successfully designed, developed and delivered efficient and effective assurance programmes for business units and enterprise-wide portfolios/change projects in a highly regulated environment (pharmaceuticals). I have engaged with board committees and key stakeholders as a trusted business partner, providing integrated reporting of audit outcomes, risk management activities, internal controls and compliance. My focus is providing independent assurance that the required elements to deliver the programme and associated benefits are in place and are operating effectively. I am currently Head of Assurance for a UK major infrastructure project where I am accountable for developing the integrated assurance strategy and plan, setting standards, developing capabilities and monitoring performance. I collaborate with executives to ensure that assurance recommendations are understood, prioritised appropriately and fed into improvement plans. I have gained significant experience around OCG Gateway Reviews, the Treasury Green Book and Managing Public Money.	I have been informally involved in the Assurance SIG for around 18 months and would now like to take a more formal role as a representative of my fellow assurance practitioners. I already play an active role in the committee; I was the chair of the November 2017 Assurance Conference organising committee, and I was pleased to be asked to take on the same role for the 2018 Conference. To me, the SIG provides our voice in the APM and is a great opportunity to share knowledge. Through the collective experience of SIG members, we are raising the profile of our profession, and increasing the understanding of the essential role of assurance in portfolio, programme and project management. I was motivated to apply for election as I want to contribute, and be part of that journey. In addition this is a great opportunity to learn from my peers and for me to share my experience with others.	I bring my passion and enthusiasm for assurance to the committee, together with a wealth of practical experience and demonstrated outcomes. My peers tell me that I am strong on communication and engagement. I can translate "assurance-speak" into simple, meaningful business language which leads to understanding and action. As an analytical thinker, I am able to assess complex business information, develop conclusions, make recommendations and deliver effective solutions. I enjoy working with other people and believe that the best results are achieved by teams. And, of course, I have robust project management skills!	Variable - I am happy to attend Committee meetings, continue to organise the Conference, and provide support to other SIG activities as required