

FirstLight Council 2018/2019

Fiona Hammond - Chair

Fiona is currently Chief Operations Officer of Organ Donation Transplant Ireland, which under EU Directive is the national competent authority for organ donation. She has over 13 years healthcare experience in leadership, management and governance across the public and private sector, including a period of global operations management with international pharmaceutical company Novartis.

Notably, in 2011 Fiona led the establishment of the National Office of Clinical Audit (NOCA) which was brought to life through collaboration of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and the HSE. Through her Executive Management role in NOCA Fiona managed the concept build, development and implementation of several national audits over multiple specialties, including Orthopaedics, Intensive Care and Trauma.

In 2005, having been part of the first administrative team recruited to set up Vhi SwiftCare Clinics in Ireland, Fiona went on to grow her career in health management and take the Group Head of Operations position. She was responsible for the national rollout of clinics from fit-out to team recruitment and induction and day to day management of the group. Core to her role was the introduction of clinical governance and the achievement of accreditation for Vhi SwiftCare Clinics.

Fiona attained an MSc in Healthcare Management in 2011 and is currently undertaking a part-time MSc Healthcare in Ethics and Law with RCSI. Alongside her career in healthcare and study, Fiona continues to manage mothering her now adult son and daughter.

Fiona joined the board of FirstLight in 2018 and serves as Chairperson.

Oliver Blackwell - Secretary

Oliver joined the Board of FirstLight in 2013 as the Secretary of the organisation. He qualified with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (BE) in 1998 from UCC and also holds a Master of Business Studies (MBS) from CIT.

He has worked in various technical, project, managerial and director level roles in the telecoms and IT sector. With work, he has travelled extensively to many developing countries including Somalia, Sierra Leone, Congo, Sri Lanka and Iraq. He has also rolled out mobile phone networks in Paraguay and the Federated States of Micronesia, and has been involved in the testing and development of innovative and cutting edge VoIP telephony solutions.

In his spare time, Oliver enjoys music and hill-walking and participates on the Board of Management as Treasurer of Togher Boys National School in Cork. Oliver joined the Board of FirstLight in 2013.

Deirdre Magliozzi - Treasurer

Deirdre is a Registered General Nurse and currently works in St James's Hospital Dublin. She trained in St James's hospital in 1993. Following general medical and surgical experience, Deirdre completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Oncological Nursing, and has experience in an acute Oncology inpatient area as a Clinical Nurse Manager.

In 2002 Deirdre moved into the area of clinical trials and worked as an Oncology Research Nurse until the birth of her third child. She spent the next few years at home with the family. She returned to work in 2012 and currently works in the National Coagulation Centre in St James's Hospital.

Following the sudden death of her daughter Clodagh in 2013, Deirdre and her family found support from FirstLight. In 2015, Deirdre joined the Board of FirstLight. She is a member of the Finance Committee and serves as Treasurer. Deirdre lives in County Dublin with her husband and three children. When not working or ferrying the family around, Deirdre enjoys walking and reading.

Maeve Blackwell

Maeve is originally from Kerry and is now living in Cork. Maeve has been a member of the FirstLight Board since March 2013. She is a bereaved parent and has a vested interest in FirstLight.

She was Treasurer for the Cork branch of Fundraising Ireland for a year and a member of Fundraising Ireland for 3 years.

Maeve has been an active member of FirstLight's Fundraising Sub-committee for the past 4 years. She was also involved in the requirements for the website and in the rebranding to FirstLight.

Professionally, she has worked as a Software Manager and Software Project Manager in various IT sectors including the Financial, Telecoms, Health, Entertainment and Gaming industries. She holds a Masters in Information Technology from IT Tralee and is a certified Scrum Master.

Maeve also works with the Parents Association at a local school in a voluntary capacity.

Adrian O' Grady

Adrian is a Station Officer with Dublin Fire Brigade and Ambulance Service. He has 23 years of experience working as a Firefighter, Paramedic and Officer.

Adrian is a qualified Psychotherapist and has been the Director of the Critical Incident Stress Management Team in Dublin Fire Brigade since 2006, providing crisis intervention, individual and group support, and counselling to members of the Brigade and the public. He holds an MSc in Bereavement Studies and has trained as a Complicated Grief Therapist with the Irish Hospice Foundation. He is a tutor in Paramedic Studies and in Individual and Group Crisis Intervention (Defusing and Debriefing) with the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICIFS), and has provided psychological support in the aftermath of the most tragic incidents across the country.

Adrian is a Steering Committee member of Critical Incident Stress Management Network Ireland, and is an Eye Movement De-Sensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) Therapist, a recognised therapy for complex trauma. He is currently stationed in Tallaght Fire Station.

Adrian joined the Board of FirstLight in 2018.

David Burke

David is a Senior Partner at Korn Ferry, a world leading Advisory and Human Capital organisation. Korn Ferry is the largest provider of Executive Search services globally.

David has extensive experience in advising clients recruiting senior executives into Life Sciences, Professional Services, Industrial and Consumer organisations. He has partnered with both public and private equity backed companies locally and internationally on C-level, EVP, SVP and Director level assignments, bringing exceptional talent to his clients.

Prior to joining Korn Ferry, David worked for over 7 years as Managing Partner at Accreate, a boutique Search firm which, under his stewardship, doubled in size every 2 years. His earlier career saw him lead and manage a division of a global Recruitment Consultancy firm for 9 years.

David previously held senior management roles at Apple Computer in Ireland and Johnson & Johnson in Australia. He is currently based in Dublin. Coupled with his professional career, David owns and runs a Dairy farm in Cork.

David is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin having attained a B.Sc. (Honours) in Management Sciences. He holds a Diploma in Marketing from the Dublin Institute of Technology as well as a Certificate in Agriculture.

He joined the Board of FirstLight in 2017 and is a member of the Fundraising Committee.

Charles O'Brien

Charles was born in Cork and moved to Dublin in 1979. He worked in radio production, media and sales before setting up a nightclub/tourism business in The Synod Hall, Christchurch.

Charles joined the management team of Mosney Holiday Centre as part of its rebrand in 1988.

As Marketing and Development Manager, he oversaw the financial turnaround and customer development of the popular County Meath family resort until its emergence in 2000 as a direct provision centre.

Charles has also worked with the Arts/Circus community to successfully lobby the government to amend the 2003 Arts Bill to recognise circus as a pillar art form, and has provided marketing and PR services to the Irish National Circus, Fossett's, since 2004.

Charles moved to Portugal in 2003 and spent 3 years working in tourism projects on the Algarve. He continues to work with a number of Portuguese based leisure venues while based in Dublin.

He joined the Board of FirstLight in 2017 and is the Chair of the Fundraising Committee.