Meet the Governors

On the next two pages, you can find brief biographies of all the current Governors of Motability

The Right Hon Lord Sterling GCVO CBE

CHAIRMAN

Lord Sterling GCVO CBE was co-founder of Motability (with the late Lord Goodman) and has been Chairman of Motability since 1994. He also chairs the Nomination Committee and The Motability Tenth Anniversary Trust.

Lord Sterling is active in other parts of the charity sector and has been a key advisor to numerous governments between 1982 and 1990, when he was Special Advisor to successive Secretaries of State for Industry. Lord Sterling joined the Board of P&O as a Non-Executive Director in 1980, and between 1983 and 2005 he was Executive Chairman. He is now Life President of P&O Cruises. Lord Sterling was created a life peer in 1990. In 2015, Lord Sterling was promoted from Honorary Rear Admiral to Honorary Vice Admiral, Royal Naval Reserve.

Sir Gerald Acher CBE LVO

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Sir Gerald Acher CBE LVO is Vice-Chairman of Motability and Chairman of its Scheme Oversight Committee, Remuneration Committee and is a member of the Nomination Committee. He is also a Trustee of The Motability Tenth Anniversary Trust.

Sir Acher is Interim Chairman of the Imperial College NHS Healthcare Trust, where he is responsible for audit, risk and governance. He is also Chairman of the Brocklands Museum Trust. He is President of Young Epilepsy and, until 2009, was Chair of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce. He was a member of the Board of KPMG and the Senior Partner of its London office until the end of 2001. He has recently been recognised with the Award for Outstanding Achievement from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Barry Le Grys MBE

GOVERNOR

Barry Le Grys MBE is a member of the Funding and Grant-Making Committee.

He worked in the offshore oil industry before being commissioned into the Royal Engineers. Barry is currently the Chief Executive of Blesma, a Service charity that has specialised in assisting veterans overcome limb loss and loss of use since the end of World War One. He is also a Director of the Confederation of Service Charities (Cobseo), a Director of Veterans Scotland, and a Member of the Independent Medical Expert Group, advising the Ministry of Defence on the relevance and validity of the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme.

Lord Shinkwin OBE

GOVERNOR

Lord Shinkwin studied British politics and legislative studies at the University of Hull.

He worked for almost 20 years in the voluntary sector, serving in various public affairs roles, including at RNID, Macmillan, Cancer Research UK and The Royal British Legion. Lord Shinkwin was introduced to the House of Lords in 2015. Since becoming a peer he has focused on disability equality issues, combating anti-Semitism and the importance for UK democracy of respecting the people’s vote in the referendum of 2016. He sits as a Conservative.

Dr Stephen Duckworth OBE

GOVERNOR

Dr Stephen Duckworth is Founder and Chief Executive of Disability Matters Global, a company promoting diversity and equality. He is also a Trustee at Leonard Cheshire, RFU Injured Players Foundation and Global Disability Innovation Hub.

He says, “As a disabled person, I am very proud to be involved with this service. I am delighted that we are now in the very fortunate position of having significant additional funds to support the mobility of many more disabled people other than those already on the Scheme.”

Cheryl Ward

GOVERNOR

Cheryl Ward is Group Chief Executive of Family Fund, the UK’s largest charity providing grants for families raising disabled or seriously ill children and young people, which is based in York. It offers support to families living on lower incomes raising a child or young person with a disability or serious illness.

Prior to joining Family Fund, Cheryl worked within the private sector supporting charities in their grant-making fulfilment, and has held a range of senior roles within financial services and retail travel.

David Hunter

GOVERNOR

David Hunter qualified as a chartered financial analyst with PWC before joining 3i, the FT100 listed private equity group, where he became Managing Director of Investment Management.

David is Chairman of UCLB plc, which manages technology transfer and resulting investments for University College London. His other interests in venture and social investment include chairing the Investment Committee of the Care & Wellbeing fund backed by Big Society Capital and Macmillan Cancer Care. David is currently a Trustee of Age UK and is now Honorary Treasurer of Motability.

Professor Adrian V Stokes OBE

GOVERNOR

Professor Adrian V Stokes OBE is a founder Governor of Motability. He chairs the Funding and Grant-Making Committee and is a member of the Nomination Committee.

Professor Stokes has been disabled since birth due to spina bifida. His background is in academia and the NHS, with expertise in telecommunications, computer networks (he is one of the founders of the Internet) and health informatics. He has been Chairman of Disabled Motoring UK (DMUK) for 22 years, having served a total of 50 years as a Trustee. He stood down as Chairman of DMUK in May 2018. He was awarded an OBE in 1983 for services to disabled people.

Professor William Webb

GOVERNOR

Professor William Webb is an independent consultant at Webb Search and CEO of the Weightless SIG, a body standardising a new M2M technology.

Professor William was one of the founding directors of Neul, a company developing machine-to-machine (M2M) technologies and networks. Prior to this, William was a Director at Ofcom where he managed a team providing technical advice and performing research. He has worked for a range of communications consultancies and spent three years providing strategic management across Motorola’s entire communications portfolio, based in Chicago.