

Traffic Commissioner biographies

Beverley Bell was appointed as Traffic Commissioner for the North West of England in April 2000.

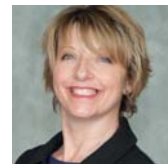


Beverley worked in private practice before establishing her own practice in 1990, specialising in Criminal and Transport Law.

In her role as a Traffic Commissioner, Beverley focuses on conducting public inquiries to ensure the safe operation of commercial vehicles and attending industry events to promote initiatives to drive up standards.

Beverley is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and a Fellow of the Society of Operations Engineers. Beverley is the Statutory Senior Traffic Commissioner for Great Britain.

Sarah Bell was appointed Traffic Commissioner for the West of England commencing in June 2007.



Sarah was made a partner at Moore & Blatch in May 2003 where she headed up the marine department and co-headed the regulatory department.

From 1999 until 2007 she worked representing the interests of haulage operators, their directors and drivers in the criminal courts, at public inquiry before traffic commissioners and the Upper Tribunal. She also prosecuted complex cases for the Health & Safety Executive and had a diverse marine practice.

As well as her standard duties as Traffic Commissioner, Sarah gives talks to trade bodies and other stakeholders.

Nick Denton was appointed as Traffic Commissioner for the South East and Metropolitan Area in March 2012.



Nick worked as private secretary to the Leader of the House of Commons and on secondment to the European Commission in Brussels before becoming the UK's transport negotiator at the EU.

After a spell as head of export promotion and regional food at Defra, Nick spent three years in Montreal as the UK's representative on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organisation. Back in London, he worked first on Crossrail and then as head of DfT's Freight Policy and Lorry Charging Division.

Richard Turfitt was appointed as Traffic Commissioner for the East of England in May 2008.



Richard left independent practice in 1997 to prosecute on behalf of the Departments of Social Security and Health. In 1998 he moved to the Treasury Solicitor's Department to undertake personal injury litigation. He was also responsible for managing the representation of the Prison Service at

inquests throughout England and Wales.

Richard joined the Health and Safety Executive in 1999 and helped establish their Litigation and Enforcement Advisory team. Richard helped to found the Health and Safety Lawyers' Association and is a serving Justice of the Peace.

Joan Aitken was appointed as full time Traffic Commissioner for Scotland in March 2003.



Joan was the Scottish Prison Complaints Commissioner (Ombudsman) from 1999 until her appointment as a Traffic Commissioner. She has served as a part time chairman of employment tribunals, disability appeal tribunals and child support appeal tribunals in Scotland.

As a solicitor she has worked in both private practice and local government. She is a former member of the Council of the Law Society of Scotland and for many years was editor of that Society's Journal. She is a Chartered Fellow of the Institute of Logistics and Transport.

Nick Jones was appointed as Traffic Commissioner for Wales and the West Midlands in May 2007.



Nick worked as a chief officer in the magistrates' courts service and served as a justices' chief executive and a justices' clerk in West Yorkshire and West Mercia. Before his appointment as Traffic Commissioner, he worked as a senior crown prosecutor in Birmingham and Hereford.

For much of his time as a chief officer Nick was responsible for training staff and magistrates on law, including road traffic law. He was a long-time member of NACRO's National Race Issues Advisory Committee.

He is a chartered member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and is a chartered fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.

Kevin Rooney was appointed as Traffic Commissioner for the North East of England in January 2012.



Kevin joined the Department for Transport to develop vehicle safety policy before moving to the Transport Research Laboratory and then to the Vehicle Certification Agency.

At the Vehicle Inspectorate and VOSA, Kevin managed the introduction of the first MOT emission tests, diesel smoke tests and led the programme to upgrade VOSA's enforcement processes. He has also worked as a road safety consultant to new EU member states and neighbouring countries and set up an EU project to agree minimum training levels for control officers.

Kevin was a founder Director of the Confederation of Organisations in Road Transport Enforcement which has members from over 30 countries.