

# Curriculum Vitae

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## David P. A. Gravells

### Profile

**Experienced portfolio chairman and company director with demonstrable in leading and transforming organisations across a wide spectrum of business sectors; undertaking leadership roles the independent education and ‘not for profit’ sectors; and accreditation in multiple judicial roles.** In all my roles I have brought expertise and demonstrable value to boards, beneficial contacts, thinking strategic thinking, and the exercise of sound independent judgement.

I have a wide range of commercial sector experience in the which includes: food services and facilities management; retail; supply of commercial restaurant and food service systems; metal treatment and CNC engineering; aerospace; vehicle security systems; printing and publishing; broadcast media; temporary and agency staff; data cabling, fire and security; and worldwide machine trading.

### Leadership characteristics: my ‘brand’

- **personal equity investments**
- effective ‘100 day plans’, rescue and turnaround, timely exits, profit growth, and **enhancement of stakeholder value**
- **leading change management** to achieve ‘next stage’ business development
- adding **commercial value** through my extensive networks
- strong **interpersonal skills, a candid and constructive challenger, an inquisitive leader, an authentic influencer, a trusted advisor and coach, problem resolver, and an excellent communicator**
- **innovative and resilient** with an **agile approach** to evolving situations
- quoted **plc company and very large scale business experience**
- familiarity with **venture capital, private equity and the banking community**, and their dynamics

### Career details

#### Previously

**Chairing, directing and managing over 20 SME companies** including Airedale Group Limited; Homeform Group Limited; Yeoman’s Investment Limited; Controlled Speed Limited; Holmes Group; B&M Retail Limited; The Greetings Store Group Ltd; CCA Holdings Limited; Stationery Box Holdings Limited; Stray FM Plc; Marston Mills Limited; CBC Limited.

## **2016 – 2020 - Non-executive director and chair of the Remuneration and organisation Design Committee of the Student Loan Company (SLC).**

The SLC is responsible for providing funding for the Higher and Further Education Sectors and managing an asset book of more than £294 billion, representing an outstanding public policy success; instrumental role in implementing the SLC's major transformation programme including conducting sensitive, high level and public disciplinary issues.

## **Currently**

### **October 1998 – present PARACLETE – Owner**

Established personal vehicle to seek out and make investments in start-ups, turnaround or developing businesses. Deal stream established and engaged in a variety of consultancy roles.

### **July 2007 – present - NORTHERN 2 VCT PLC – Chair/Non-executive director**

'Publicly quoted Generalist' Venture Capital Trust with £128mn funds under management, invested in approximately 50 companies providing capital for developing companies, generating high value innovation and employment opportunities in line with government policy, high returns for shareholders through dividends and regular realisation activity.

### **September 2019 – present - THE PAROLE BOARD FOR ENGLAND AND WALES - Member**

Independent member, panel chair and mentor, responsible for the application of the statutory legal test for the release of prisoners into the community following referrals from the Secretary of State for Justice.

### **2019 – present - WHITE HORSE MACHINERY – Consultant Chair**

£23mn turnover in the international trading of pre-owned commercial printing equipment.

### **2019 – present - JBOD FOOD - Active Investor**

Manufacturer of an innovative 'free from' food products, now available in most of the major multiples.

## **Education**

**Master of Science in Management Services** - Durham University Business School

**Bachelor of Arts in History and Economics** - University of Strathclyde

## **Other Activities**

Presiding Justice of the Peace (JP), 1992 – 2019, North Yorkshire Commission; and chair of the Harrogate and Skipton Bench, 2009-2012

Governor and chair of the Trustees of the Grammar School at Leeds, 1992-2019, the UK's largest independent co-educational school: Voted 'Outstanding Governing Body of the Year' in 2012 and Sunday Times 'Northern Independent School of the Decade 2020'

Chair, the Business Graduates Association

Chair, International Accreditation Board of The Association of MBAs

Visiting Professor, Durham University Business School

Chair, Advisory Board of Durham University Business School

Church Warden, Ripley Church