The British Occupational Hygiene Society welcomes Sarah Leeson as new President

Thursday 25 June, 2026

The British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS), the Chartered Society for Worker Health Protection, is delighted to announce the appointment of Sarah Leeson as the new President for 2026-2027.

The appointment was confirmed at BOHS's Annual General Meeting, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the Society's leadership as it continues to deliver its ambitious new 5-year strategy for 2026-2030 and advance its mission of protecting worker health in the UK and around the world.

Sarah succeeds Adrian Parris as President and brings more than three decades of experience in occupational hygiene, alongside a long history of service to the profession and the Society.

A Chartered Occupational Hygienist and Chartered Fellow of the Faculty of Occupational Hygiene (CFFOH), she spent more than 30 years working in the petrochemical industry. During her career, she held a number of senior occupational hygiene roles, including Industrial Hygiene Manager for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, where she oversaw occupational hygiene programmes across multiple countries.

Sarah has also played a key role within BOHS, serving as Registrar of the Faculty of Occupational Hygiene (FOH) since 2019, following six years as a member of the Faculty Committee. Through these roles, she has helped establish, develop and maintain professional standards across the occupational hygiene profession and has represented the Faculty on the BOHS Board of Trustees.

Sarah said:

"It is a tremendous honour to serve as President of BOHS at such an important time for both the Society and the occupational hygiene profession. Worker health protection has never been more important, and BOHS is uniquely placed to lead, influence and support positive change both in the UK and internationally.

"As President, I want to build on the Society's strong foundations, support the delivery of our new Strategy for 2026–2030, and continue to raise the profile of occupational hygiene. I am particularly passionate about encouraging professional development and supporting more members to progress through the profession and achieve Chartered status. I also look forward to helping expand BOHS's global influence through initiatives that improve worker health protection worldwide."

Joining Sarah in the leadership team as President-Elect is Jason Hodgkiss, a Qualified Occupational Hygienist and Specialist Member of the Faculty of Occupational Hygiene (FFOH(S)), Fellow of the *Faculty of Asbestos Assessment and Management* (FFAAM) and a holder of the Institute of Directors' Diploma in Company Direction (DipIOD).

Jason has been a BOHS member since the early 1990s and has made a significant contribution to the Society over many years. His previous roles include serving as a BOHS Regional Organiser and completing a three-year term on the Faculty of Occupational Hygiene Committee, where he contributed to the Faculty's "Driving Up Standards" initiative.

Over the past year, Jason has worked as the Occupational Hygienist on one of the UK's largest construction projects, helping to drive greater recognition of occupational health risks and the importance of protecting workers from harmful exposures.

Jason said:

"I am honoured to have been elected President-Elect and look forward to supporting Sarah and the wider BOHS community over the coming years. Occupational hygiene has a critical role to play in preventing work-related ill health, and there remains a significant opportunity to ensure that health receives the same level of attention and priority as safety across all industries.

"BOHS has a proud history of advancing standards, supporting professional development and improving worker health outcomes. I am excited to help build on that legacy and contribute to the delivery of the Society's ambitious vision for the future."

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Professor Kevin Bampton, Chief Executive of BOHS, said:

“Sarah and Jason bring a wealth of experience, expertise and passion to these leadership roles. Both have made outstanding contributions to occupational hygiene and to BOHS over many years. Their commitment to professional excellence, worker health protection and the development of our profession will be invaluable as we continue to deliver our strategy for 2026–2030 and strengthen our impact both nationally and internationally.”

The Presidential team will be supported by the wider BOHS Board of Trustees, whose members bring diverse perspectives and specialist knowledge from across occupational hygiene, worker health protection and related disciplines. Further information about the 2026–27 BOHS Board of Trustees can be found here.

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