

Our speakers have experience in a range of public speaking events, including party conference fringe sessions, discussing issues from across the trading standards and consumer protection landscape.

Sarah Caughey, Head of Policy

Sarah joined CTSI as Head of Policy in 2019.

She has background in legal studies and qualified as a solicitor prior to joining the trading standards profession. Sarah underwent her DCATS training and was an Inspector with the Trading Standards Service Northern Ireland from 2012 to 2019.

Her areas of interest include estate agency law, the private rented sector and unfair terms legislation. Prior to moving to CTSI, Sarah worked in the TSSNI EU Exit Team where she examined the potential impacts, risks and opportunities of exiting the EU from an operational perspective, to ensure preparedness and ongoing service delivery for the consumers and businesses of Northern Ireland. Sarah has also served as CTSI Northern Ireland Branch Chair and Council Representative.



Phil Owen, Service Director - Professional Relationships

Phil represents the Institute and Trading Standards at the highest levels with UK government in the formation of regulatory reform policy and legislative developments – advising on aspects of business compliance, consumer and trading law. He has extensive experience representing UK interests at EU level on aspects of market surveillance, developing regulatory reform training solutions for EU market surveillance authorities and auditing of member states market surveillance arrangements and up until recently was a board member of the Product Safety Forum of Europe.

In March 2020, local authority trading standards and environmental health were designated as enforcement bodies under the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020. Phil was nominated as the key person in CTSI to work with the Government to help support local authorities in the effective implementation of the new important obligations.

Phil has been an advisor to Governments including Armenia, China, Malaysia and Vietnam. Since 2015 he has continued to deliver several projects on behalf of the UK Government to assist the Government of India in their Ease of Doing Business initiatives. He is also a lead trainer on the EU's Better Training for Safer Foods Programme on E-Commerce and lead the development and delivery of the successful Regulatory Compliance Officer Apprenticeship Scheme.

Phil started his career as an inspector at Staffordshire County Council where he led on food and health issues and was invited to become a visiting lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University to lecture EH and TS undergraduates. Phil moved to Oxfordshire County Council – taking on management responsibilities and leading the County's professional development programme.

Our speakers are happy to cover the following topics:

- Consumer issues
- Unfair trading
- The role of competition and consumer confidence in the economy
- Business support
- The role of smaller services within local authorities

For more information about booking either of our speakers for your event please contact the CTSI policy team (policy@tsi.org.uk)