RUSI

The 191st Annual General Meeting of the Institute Thursday 20 October 2022 at 2pm

BIOGRAPHIES

Trustees

Ms Divyata Ashiya

Divyata Ashiya is a Partner at Just Transition Capital, a private investment firm focused on innovation in energy and decarbonisation, with a mission toward building an equitable global energy transition. She is also closely involved with large scale financing initiatives to help address the funding gap for net-zero targets in developing nations.

Ms Ashiya has spent her international career in New York, Hong Kong, London and Singapore in leadership roles across transactional and fiduciary businesses. Previously Divyata was Chief Operating Officer for the Merchant Banking Division International at Goldman Sachs based in London. Prior to this, Divyata was based in Singapore and led the Goldman Sachs Asset Management franchise across the region, including India. She was Chair of the GS Female Managing Director Network Asia Pacific. She has also worked across developed and developing capital markets in roles across Securities and Corporate Finance.

She is Trustee and Founder of Plaksha University, a newly established university in India that re-imagines the education of science and technology, with a vision to nurture world-class entrepreneurs and leaders to solve large challenges.

Ms Ashiya has a BA from Amherst College and an MBA from INSEAD. She is a Fellow of the Aspen Institute.

She Chairs the International Advisory Group for Equinor.

General Sir Nick Carter GCB CBE DSO

General Sir Nick Carter is an accomplished strategic leader and advisor. He has over 45 years' military experience culminating at the top of his profession as the Chief of the Defence Staff where he was the principal military advisor to the Prime Minister, the National Security Council, and the Secretary of State for Defence, and the Head of the UK Armed Forces. He also served as the Chief of the General Staff,



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professional Head of the British Army. He is an expert on defence and geopolitical affairs, transformational and strategic leadership, and inclusivity.

General Carter has commanded on operations at every level of command and in a variety of different contexts, including the 'Troubles' in Northern Ireland, UN peacekeeping in Cyprus, NATO peace enforcement in both Bosnia and Kosovo, and commanding the UK-led Brigade in Iraq in 2003-04. He has multiple years of experience in Afghanistan since 9/11 until the present day, designing approaches to counter insurgency and acting as the key facilitator to build confidence between the Afghan and Pakistani governments.

An accomplished military diplomat, he was the first CDS in over a decade to develop a relationship with his Chinese opposite number, the Chief of CMC Joint Staff Department Li Zoucheng. He has developed several coalitions and military communities of interest including in the Middle East with the GCC, Iraq, Jordan, and Egypt, in the Caribbean, and the Joint Expeditionary Force with the Nordics and Baltic States to counter Russian belligerence.

His hallmarks are the defence element of the most recent Integrated Review, leading to the largest uplift in defence spending since the end of the Cold War; the fundamental restructuring of the British Army (known as Army 2020) following the national Defence Reviews of 2010 and 2015; and the design of the Armed Forces' support to the national COVID-19 response.

General Carter initiated and drove significant cultural change, instituting a strategic culture, a programme of empowerment and maximising talent. A strong advocate for equality of opportunity, enabling everyone to maximise their talent, he was recognised by Business in the Community, who named him Gender Champion in 2017, after making and winning the case for legislation to be changed to open all roles in the military to all people, based on ability and potential rather than outdated notions of gender.

He becomes a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in California from September 2022.

