

Mark Sismey-Durrant is currently pursuing a portfolio career having recently retired from his role as CEO of Hampshire Trust Bank after over 40 years in Banking. Over a period spanning 23 years, he successfully scaled three banks as CEO – Sun Bank, Heritable Bank and Hampshire Trust Bank. He has served on the Boards of banks in the UK and Channel Islands and been a Board Director of the UK Operations of Sun Life Financial of Canada. His early career was spent in retail, international and corporate banking in Midland Bank. He has specific expertise in building specialist lending and deposit operations and bank governance models. In 2014 he led Hampshire Trust through a management buyout supported by Alchemy Private Equity and decided to retire having completed the task of building a sustainable and profitable business from an effective start-up position. Mark is currently a Board Director of UK Finance and he chairs its Audit and Oversight Committee. He also served on the transitional Board for its formation from six trade bodies, including the BBA where he was a Board Director and Chair of the Specialist Bank Advisory Board over several years. He is currently working with a variety of financial services businesses on their strategy and governance.

He has recently completed a nine-year term as Council member at Loughborough University where he served as President of the Alumni Association, Chair of Audit Committee and Pro-Chancellor. He is now Chairman (Elect) of the School of Business and Economics. He was formerly Chairman of the British Icelandic Chamber of Commerce. He is a trustee of the Bedford School Foundation.

He went to Stamford School and graduated from Loughborough University with an honours degree in Banking and Finance and a Master of Philosophy degree on the recycling of petrodollars. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts Design and Manufactures.

A keen follower and participant in sport, he enjoys hill-walking with his wife and dog in Northumberland. He is very practical and restores antique furniture.

He is Master of the Worshipful Company of International Bankers, having served as Chair of its Charity and Education Committee. He has been the WCIB representative for the Financial Services Group of Companies.