

Hugh Douglas-Smith



Legal & Finance Department Coordinator

2020-2021 Manifesto

Having been an active member of the OSM board for the last two years in the capacity of Operations DC I believe I have been able to contribute significantly to the day to day running of the project leadership and provide my skills, knowledge and experience in setting the strategy for the future.

Having acted as a joint facilitator in the recent Forum for the Future Professionalism stream I am minded that as an organisation we need to set a strategy for the future which gives us the ability

to survive and grow. It is clear in my mind that at present we are in serious risk of significant decline. We must identify and properly address the marketplace we are in whilst not losing sight of the thousands of exceptional people and volunteers that make our Joomla community so special. However, we need to recognise that the world we are in today is very different from that of fifteen years ago and as such we must set our sights on the next 1, 3, 5 and 10 years to re-establish ourselves as a market leader. The Forum for the Future posed these questions and made significant progress in defining a way forward, what is needed now is the skills and drive at board level to implement this.

My career has been spent in both technical and sales & marketing roles at senior and board positions across a range of international software companies. I have a wealth of experience and knowledge which I will continue to bring to the OSM board to assist in the rebuild of the Joomla project. It has been a privilege to serve for the past two years as Operations DC and believe in that time I have guided the teams into a sense of professionalism with some notable achievements. I believe however, that my skills could better serve the board in the role of Legal and Finance where our corporate structure and financing from external sources has been lacking over the past year. Our revenues have decreased which has had an effect on our budgeting and our ability to take on and deliver against many of our goals and challenges.

The Forum for the Future has given me confidence that there is the clear will and enthusiasm within the community to drive Joomla forward, make it relevant again and give it a professional outlook that is presented to the marketplace in a very positive light.

I have already introduced process and procedure to the Conflict Resolution Team and would seek to bring a similar level of professionalism to the Legal & Finance department as well as bringing a plan to the Capital team to encourage further revenue for the project. I am therefore seeking your vote to appoint me as the DC for Legal & Finance.