



I am deeply honoured to be your President for 2026. Having had the privilege of serving as Vice President, I have seen first hand the dedication, passion, and spirit that make this Association so special. I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor Keith Jones whose leadership and hard work have left us in a strong position for the future. His contribution has set a high standard, and I am determined to build on that foundation. It has been a pleasure to have been his deputy. I look forward to working with our new Senior Deputy President, Sandra Foss.

I want to sincerely thank you all for placing your trust in me. This role is not one I take lightly. I know that the responsibility of leading our Association comes with challenges as well as opportunities, and I promise to give my very best to ensure we continue to grow, thrive, and succeed together.

As President, my aim is simple. to represent each of you, to listen to your voices, and to work collaboratively so that together, we achieve our shared goals. Whether through new initiatives, stronger partnerships, or celebrating the achievements of our members, I believe the future of the Essex Vice Presidents' Association is bright.

Let's continue to support one another, challenge ourselves to do better, and make a positive difference in everything we do.

Thank you once again for your trust, your support, and your confidence. I look forward to working with all of you in this exciting season.

**Chris Waite**

**Dunmow BC and Falcon IBC**