

## **Nominee Statement – Phil Thorpe**

I am pleased to submit my nomination to serve as a Director on the WPC Executive Board. With more than 30 years of experience across the plumbing, facilities management, infrastructure, energy, and construction sectors, I believe I can bring a practical industry perspective, strong governance capability, and a genuine commitment to supporting the future growth and sustainability of the plumbing profession.

My career began in the trade sector as a qualified plumber, gasfitter, and drainlayer before progressing into business ownership, where I successfully owned and later sold a plumbing business. From there, I moved into senior leadership positions managing large operational teams, national service delivery contracts, complex infrastructure projects, and decarbonisation initiatives across New Zealand.

This broad experience has provided me with a strong understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our industry today — from workforce capability and health and safety through to sustainability, energy efficiency, innovation, and maintaining high professional standards. My experience spans plumbing, gas, drainage, mechanical, HVAC, energy systems, facilities management, and project governance, allowing me to contribute both strategic and operational insight.

Alongside my executive leadership career, I currently serve as Deputy Chair of the Apprenticeship Training Trust (ATT), a not-for-profit organisation supporting the training and development of more than 200 plumbing and electrical apprentices throughout New Zealand. This role has strengthened my passion for industry training and workforce development, particularly the importance of attracting, mentoring, and supporting the next generation entering the trades.

I also serve as a Director on the Site Safe New Zealand Board, contributing to improving health and safety leadership and outcomes across the construction and infrastructure sectors. These governance roles have provided valuable experience in strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, risk management, and industry advocacy.

Throughout my career, I have believed strongly in collaboration, practical outcomes, and giving back to the industry that has provided me with so many opportunities. I see the WPC as an important voice for the plumbing profession and would welcome the opportunity to contribute my leadership, governance experience, and industry knowledge to support its ongoing success and future direction.

Yours sincerely,  
**Phil Thorpe**

