



Association of
Democratic Services
Officers

Priya Patel: ADSO Company Secretary (Joint)

I have worked in Democratic and Member services functions for over 17 years and within local government for over 20 years. My experience spans across six councils, starting out as a Democratic Services Officer and working through the length and breadth of democratic services and member support. I currently lead a team at the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames as a Democratic Services Manager and led a Scrutiny team prior to that.

I have been a member of ADSO since its inception in 2009 and have watched it grow and evolve over the years. I have been pleased to attend many ADSO events, conferences and training courses over the years of my career and have found these sector specific, tailored events to be invaluable. I am delighted and very proud to be joining the team in 2020, as joint Company Secretary and I'm keen to contribute all I can to further build on the success of ADSO.

More recently, I have been particularly impressed with the way ADSO has risen to the challenges of the Covid 19 pandemic and provided our sector with briefings and guidance documents on emerging legislation, webinars and virtual platforms to keep us all connected and to ensure we have the ability to share good practice and support, during such a challenging time.