



**Local Enterprise Partnership Chairs  
Biographies 2021**

**Tom Westley DL**  
**Black Country LEP**

Black Country LEP



Tom is Chairman of the Westley Group, one of Europe's largest copper-based alloy foundry and engineering groups consisting of five brands: Spunalloys, Walter Frank, Francis W Birkett, Westleys, JT Price and Meighs Ltd. The group employs more than 300 people and has a turnover in excess of €30 million.

Tom is the Board Lead on Enterprise Zones and Chair of the Enterprise Zones Management Steering Group.

He is also a member of the Funding Applications Sub-Group and a LEP representative on the Black Country Joint Advisory Group.

In 2017, Tom was made Deputy Lieutenant to Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the West Midlands.

**Andrew Smith**  
**Buckinghamshire LEP**

**Buckinghamshire**  
LOCAL ENTERPRISE  
PARTNERSHIP  
THE ENTREPRENEURIAL HEART OF BRITAIN



Andrew always wanted to work in the film industry, then after being a civil servant, having a stint in politics, starting up his own business and training to be a scuba diving instructor, his dream came true and he went to work for Pinewood in 2008.

As Director of Corporate Affairs, Andrew has been instrumental in the development of the Pinewood site and development of the international reputation of the studio and in particular in developing strong investment links.

A Board member of Buckinghamshire LEP since 2012, Andrew has been instrumental in guiding and supporting the growth of the LEP and his knowledge of the film and creative arts sector has been invaluable in the development of this growth area for Buckinghamshire. Andrew is also a non-executive Director of Buckinghamshire Business First.

He is passionate about allowing everybody opportunity, especially the long-term unemployed and NEETs.



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

**Austen Adams**  
**Greater Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined**  
**Authority (The Business Board)**  
**(Interim Chair)**



Austen has accumulated 30 years' experience in managing profitable engineering companies across the world. Having started his career as an engineering apprentice in the industrial heart of the UK, the Black Country, he has transcended all levels of management.

An advocate of modern management practices, he trained with Textron Inc. in the US as a global business trouble shooter before going on to hold a number of senior executive roles in sales, operational and general management in businesses across five continents. Sound strategic thinking, hard work, determination and teamwork underpin Austen's reputation for getting the job done.

Austen currently manages a portfolio of twelve industrial business within Avingtrans plc, two in China and ten in the UK, serving the medical and energy sectors. Two of his portfolio cornerstone businesses of Peter Brotherhood and Metalcraft are situated within the Combined Authority. A committed and hands on supporter of local, national and international bodies holding posts in advisory board roles for the National Skills Academy Nuclear, Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, EEF and the Walsall Economic Board. Austen also provides local advisory services to SMEs in the engineering sector.



**Clare Hayward MBE DL**  
**Cheshire & Warrington Enterprise Partnershi**



Clare is a highly competent chair and facilitator at senior management and board level. She co-founded, developed and sold Academee, a global leadership development consultancy, to Oliver Wyman, a division of Marsh and McLennan Companies in 2008. She was retained, post-acquisition, as Global Partner of Sales and Market Development within this Fortune250 group.

A successful business woman and entrepreneur focused on leadership and strategic engagement who has coached, facilitated and chaired boards, senior management teams and leaders across the globe over the last 20 years working in industry sectors including technology, banking and finance, natural resources, retail and manufacturing. Experience also includes investment funding and negotiating the sale and purchase of several businesses. Clare also has significant experience within the community, charity and local political landscape.

Clare is the Growth Director at Cirrus, a Leadership, talent and engagement consulting firm, working with FTSE 100 clients and is also a Deputy Lieutenant for Cheshire. Other roles include: Queen's Voluntary Award Assessment Board, East Cheshire Hospice Ambassador and Angel, and MMU MBA Advisory Board. Previous roles include: Chair of Make it Macclesfield and board member of Peaks and Plains Housing Trust.

**Julie Kapsalis**  
Coast to Capital LEP



Julie has worked in economic development for over 15 years with a particular focus on enterprise, skills and social inclusion. She served as an advisor to the UK Government's task force on women's enterprise and has recently contributed to the Rose Review of Female Entrepreneurship. Julie is diversity champion for the LEP.

She is a Board Member at Gatwick Diamond Business and the Institute of Economic Development and is former Chair of the Chichester Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Julie is Managing Director of Chichester College Group with responsibility for a portfolio of commercial businesses including a chain of childcare nurseries, examination board and international education.

Julie previously worked as director at the South East England Development Agency, managing a portfolio of contracts including Business Link and Finance South East. Prior to this she has a background in consumer marketing and PR. In 2012 she fulfilled a long-held ambition to work on the London 2012 Olympics and managed a legacy programme to encourage volunteering and community engagement in sport.

**Mark Duddridge**  
Cornwall & Isles of Scilly LEP



Mark was a main board director of Samworth Brothers which owns Callington-based Ginsters and Tamar Foods in South East Cornwall.

He was Managing Director of Ginsters for 15 years, Samworth Brothers for almost 20 years and until recently was a Director of Roddas Clotted Cream.

Before that he held a variety of roles with Northern Foods, including commercial and site Director of a number of their operating businesses.

He is currently an associate non-executive Director of the Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

**Sarah Windrum**  
**Coventry & Warwickshire**  
**LEP**



Sarah Windrum was appointed chair of the CWLEP in April 2021. She became a board director in 2016 and was chair of the Digital and Creative Business Group from 2018 when it launched where she supported the rapid growth of the technology sector and championed digital skills.

Sarah completed a two-year spell in 2021 as the West Midlands Policy Advisor for the Federation of Small Businesses where she influenced policy for the improvement of digital skills, infrastructure, and culture for small businesses and the self-employed. She is also a former vice-chair of the Skills Board at Tech UK and was an industry advisory board member of Ada, the National College for Digital Skills.

Sarah is a board member of the West Midlands Combined Authority's Innovation and Strategic Economic Development boards and served on its Mental Health Select Committee. She is the founder and a director of the Leamington-based technology company The Emerald Group which provides expert IT advice, support and solutions for businesses.

**Lord Richard Inglewood**  
**Cumbria LEP**



Richard Inglewood is a Cumbrian non-affiliated Member of the House of Lords. He was previously Chair of the boards of Cumbrian businesses Carr's Milling Industries plc, CN Group Ltd and Gen2.

Lord Inglewood has also held a number of ministerial positions during his career. He was the minister for broadcasting and for tourism during his time as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of National Heritage in the late 1990s. He has also served twice as a regional MEP, first for Cumbria and Lancashire North and then for North West England.

He is President of Cumbria Tourism and has been Deputy Lieutenant for Cumbria since 1993 and Vice-Lord Lieutenant for Cumbria since 2012.

Lord Inglewood was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge and the Cumbria College of Agriculture and Forestry. He was called to the Bar in 1975, is a Chartered Surveyor (MRICS) and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (FSA).

**Elizabeth Fagan CBE**  
**Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham & Nottinghamshire**



Elizabeth became Chair of the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership in July 2018. She is the recent former Non-Executive Chairman of Boots, having been appointed as the first female Managing Director of Boots in 2016.

Elizabeth sits on the board of the Office for Students, the independent regulator for higher education in England. She is also a Non-Executive Director of the Australian listed pooling solutions company Brambles. She is President of the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers and is a member and past President of Women in Advertising and Communications Club. Elizabeth was also a

member of the ASA Council for six years. In August 2013, she became a Fellow of the Marketing Society and, in the same year, was awarded a Cosmetic Executive Women UK, Achiever Award.

Elizabeth has been awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science by Nottingham Trent University and in January 2020 received a CBE in the Queen’s New Year Honours list for her services to gender equality in business.

On the LEP Network Board, Elizabeth represents the East Midlands Region which covers D2N2 LEP, Coventry & Warwickshire LEP, Greater Lincolnshire LEP and Leicester & Leicestershire LEP.

Cecilia

**Cecilia Bufton**  
**Dorset LEP**



Cecilia has enjoyed a successful business career over 30 years, working in a range of companies from SMEs to multinational businesses and a Trade Association.

She has held senior level roles in strategic marketing, sales and business development and brings to the Board her experiences of working in medical, pharmaceutical, digital health and wellbeing companies.

Her career has involved the development and delivery of products and services that help change the way healthcare is delivered.

As a non-executive director, business adviser and charity chair, Cecilia’s enjoys working with organisations, helping to create a compelling vision for their future and working with them to achieve their goals.

Cecilia is a science graduate with an MBA focused on international, strategic marketing and a certificate in Global Leadership from the University of Oxford. With her expertise, Cecilia is well placed to drive forward Dorset LEP’s ambition to secure investment from the government and the private sector and really put Dorset on the map.

**Dave Axam**  
**Enterprise M3 LEP**



Dave is Managing Director at Ai2EV Ltd, which combines two great passions: one for devising market solutions, and another for world changing technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, Connected Autonomous Vehicles and Electric Vehicles.

As the former South East Regional Director at BT, Dave has outstanding skills and expertise in both strategic business development and technology-led digital transformation.

This track record means Dave is the ideal candidate to Chair the LEP as it develops its local industrial strategy and seeks to stimulate further economic growth with digital and clean growth technologies at the heart of its ambition.

Dave has also enjoyed influential roles as a Director of Surrey Connects and as Chair of Governors at his local secondary school. He regards future skills as a high priority and has a keen interest in supporting Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) development in education.

**Diane Savory OBE DL**  
**GFirst LEP**



Diane is the Chair of GFirst LEP and represents Gloucestershire as part of the Future High Streets Forum with the High Streets Minister. In 2013, Diane was awarded an OBE in recognition of her work with GFirst LEP and her contribution to business, and was appointed as a Deputy Lord-Lieutenant in 2015.

With a passion for fashion, Diane studied retail and exhibition design at Cassio College, Watford. After joining Cult Clothing, the predecessor of SuperGroup Plc, she rapidly progressed through the organisation to become its Chief Operating Officer, transforming the company from a small, local enterprise to the now-distinctive global fashion retailer that is Superdry.

She has mentored businesses to help them succeed in today's challenging environment and is a board member for a number of organisations.

On the LEP Network Board, Diane represents Western Gateway region which covers GFirst LEP, West of England LEP, and Swindon & Wiltshire LEP.

**Tim Pile**  
**Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP**



Tim, Chair of Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership, holds a number of non-executive responsibilities, following on from his executive career in retail, banking, professional services and marketing.

In addition to his role as Chair of GBSLEP, Tim is a non-executive Director of Marshalls Plc and Deputy Chairman of The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital. He also serves on the Board (and is a past president) of the Greater

Birmingham Chambers of Commerce and is on the CBSO development Board.

His most recent executive role was CEO and Executive Chairman of Cogent Elliott, the leading Midlands based Marketing Agency, supporting a large number of iconic brands and businesses. Between 2001 and 2006, Tim was CEO of Sainsbury's Bank and a member of Sainsbury's Operating Board. Prior to Sainsbury's, Tim led the Retail Function of the Alliance and Leicester Group as Marketing, Strategy and Sales Director from 1996 to 2001. Before this he served at LloydsTSB as Marketing Director. He has held a number of non-executive roles including being a trustee of the Library of Birmingham, a governor at Bromsgrove School, Honorary Senior Fellow at Birmingham Business School and on the Board of Cancer Research UK.

On the LEP Network Board, Tim represents the West Midlands region which covers Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP, Black Country LEP, Coventry & Warwickshire LEP, Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire LEP, The Marches LEP, and Worcestershire LEP.

**Pat Doody**  
**Greater Lincolnshire LEP**



Pat has worked in Greater Lincolnshire for over 30 years, most recently as Area Director for NatWest Commercial Banking, a role where he oversaw a team focussing on many of those sectors key to the local economy i.e. manufacturing and technology, visitor economy, healthcare, agriculture and logistics.

He retired from that role in early 2020 and now undertakes non-executive roles. He maintains a close interest in education, having been Vice Chair of the Lincoln College Group and is an advisory board member of The University of Lincoln International Business School as well as member of the local Employment and Skills Board.

**Lou Cordwell**  
**Greater Manchester LEP**



Lou is Chair of the Local Enterprise Partnership, and lead for Communications, Digital Broadcasting and Skills Fund.

She is founder and CEO of multi award winning Manchester based digital design studio, magneticNorth. Founded in 2000, the company quickly established an international reputation with an award winning client portfolio. Today, the studio

continues to work across a wide range of sectors, from education to placemaking, helping organisations to meet evolving audience needs by putting digital at the heart of their approach.

She is SME Representative for the GM LEP, and Chair of Design Manchester.

Lou is also a founding investor in AllBright and a passionate campaigner for gender equality in business and the tech industry.

Lou was awarded an OBE in the 2018 New Year's Honours for services to the creative and digital economy.

**Karl Tucker**  
**Heart of the South West LEP**



Karl is the Executive Chairman of Yeo Valley Farms Production Ltd and has been with Yeo Valley since 1996 having joined from the Quarrying Industry and before that having served in the British Army. Karl has been a key member of the leadership team that has seen Yeo Valley grow to be the UK's largest organic food brand and one of the largest, independent, family owned dairy businesses in the UK. Karl became Executive Chairman in February

2019 having been Managing Director since June 2017 and prior to that Joint MD from November 2013. Prior to this Karl was the Finance, IT and Procurement Director since 2006. As well as his role at Yeo Valley Karl sits on the SW CBI Council, is Chair of the SW CBI's Food and Drink Council and a member of the Somerset Growth Board.

Karl is also a trustee of the Bridgwater Education Trust, a body aiming to raise the aspiration, motivation and attainment levels of the young people of Bridgwater in Somerset. For 11 years until November 2018 Karl was a trustee of 'Young Bristol', a charity that runs and supports a number of open access youth clubs and two outdoor based activity centres together with running a number of positive activity programmes for the young people in Bristol. Having left Young Bristol Karl has recently joined the board of trustees of 'Feeding Bristol', a charity working to eliminate food poverty and food insecurity in the city of Bristol and became a Governor of the Merchants Academy school in Bristol in October 2019.

**Mark Bretton**  
Hertfordshire LEP

**Hertfordshire  
Local Enterprise  
Partnership**



Mark Bretton is Chairman of Hertfordshire LEP and the LEP Network, the national body that brings all 38 LEPs together.

He is an independent consultant with 36 years of wide-ranging business experience, including in several high-profile Government programmes.

Until recently Mark was a Managing Director (Partner) in the leadership team of the professional services firm Accenture.

He sits on the Business Leaders' Council of the charity Teach First.

Mark has an MBA in Export Management and International Business from The City University Business School (now CASS) and a BSc Econ (Hons) in Management Studies. He was a Royal Signals Reserve Officer (Major) and holds a Territorial Decoration. Mark joined the LEP Board as Business Representative and Chair Designate in January 2016 and took over as Chair of the LEP Board in June 2016.

**James Newman OBE**  
Hull & East Yorkshire LEP



James is the founding Chair of the new Hull and East Yorkshire LEP (HEY LEP), which commenced operations from 1 April 2021. His executive career mainly consisted of being Group Finance Director over several PLCs.

In his Non-Executive career, he has been Chair or NED of a number of PLCs and other organisations.

James was the founding Chair of the Sheffield City Region LEP from 2010 to 2015, having retired following the signing of one of the first City Region Devolution Deals in October 2015. He is currently Chair of Finance Yorkshire and the South Yorkshire Community Foundation and has a number of other business and charitable roles, nationally and in Yorkshire.

A Chartered Accountant, former Master Cutler and Deputy Chairman of Sheffield Hallam University, James was awarded an OBE in 2017 for services to business, the economy and charity in Yorkshire and an Honorary Doctorate from Sheffield Hallam University in 2012 for services to business, enterprise and education in Yorkshire and Humber.

**David Taylor CBE DL  
(Interim Chair)**

**Lancashire Enterprise Partnership**



Lancashire  
Enterprise Partnership



David has built a reputation as a national expert in urban regeneration and more recently in green technologies. He helped to establish, and became Managing Director of, Lancashire Enterprises Limited (now Enterprise plc), followed by Managing Director of Amec Developments Limited working on projects worldwide.

He was the first Chief Executive of English Partnerships (now The Homes and Communities Agency). In a joint venture with British Land plc and several other major partners, David was the developer of a range of schemes in London which delivered residential, commercial, leisure and retail facilities with an end value of £2bn. Over the last fifteen years he has built up a portfolio of companies, which include Allied Lighting (LED), Carbon Numbers (Carbon Analysis), Endo Enterprises (Green Water Treatment systems), iHandover (Senior Executive Knowledge Transfer) and Energy 10 Ltd (Waste to Green Energy).

He was Special Advisor to The Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott for eighteen months (from 1997) with specific responsibility for the Regional White Paper and the setting up of Regional Development Agencies. He also chaired a major regeneration trust for The Prince of Wales from 1997 until 2003 spending three years on the Princes Foundation. He was a director of Manchester's hugely successful Commonwealth games, a director of the London 2012 Olympics, and he has recently become the Chairman of The University of Central Lancashire.

**Roger Marsh OBE DL  
Leeds City Region LEP**



Roger is the former senior partner at PWC Leeds and a Member of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

Since becoming Chair, Roger has led the LEP through a period of significant transformation, securing the country's largest Local Growth Deal settlement and bringing £1bn of investment to the region.

Hall Trust.

Alongside other areas, he is also one of the Trustees for the Iraq/Afghanistan memorial project and Chair of the Piece

Roger is Vice Chair of the LEP Network Board. On the Board, he represents Northern Powerhouse 11 region which covers Leeds City Region LEP, Cheshire and Warrington LEP, Cumbria LEP, Humber LEP, Lancashire LEP, Liverpool City Region LEP, Greater Manchester LEP, North East LEP; Sheffield City Region LEP; Tees Valley LEP, and York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP.

**Kevin Harris**  
**Leicester & Leicestershire LEP**



Kevin has been on the LLEP board for three years and before assuming the role of Chair he was the Vice chair.

Kevin has worked closely with local business for more than three decades. A Chartered Accountant by training, he advises SMEs on a range of areas, helping businesses to grow alongside providing essential statutory audit support.

As a strong advocate of Leicestershire, he is a prominent member of the local business community being a Board Member of the East Midlands Chamber of commerce and former Chairman of the Leicestershire Chamber.

For the majority of his career, he was the business owner of a successful regional accountancy practice, until joining RSM in Leicester as a partner in 2017.

**Asif Hamid MBE**  
**Liverpool City Region LEP**



With expert industry knowledge gained over a 30-year career in some of the world's leading outsourcing businesses, CEO and founder of The Contact Company, Asif Hamid MBE has redefined standards of customer experience since establishing the company 13 years ago.

Leading the company from just 12 team members to over 1,500 employees across multiple locations, Asif is a pioneer of new approaches to customer contact, ever searching for ways to redefine customers' expectations and improve the customer experience through industry transformation and technological innovation.

Asif sits on several regional boards and is Honorary President of the Wirral Chamber of Commerce. Asif has a strong passion for the development of people. As one of the leading entrepreneurs in his field, his expertise is highly sought by local and national commercial organisations, as well as by MPs.

In 2017, Asif was awarded an MBE for his services to SMEs.

**Angus Knowles-Cutler**  
Deputy Chair, London Economic  
Action Partnership



Angus is London Senior Advisor at Deloitte, having previously served as their London office Managing Partner for six years. London is Deloitte’s largest client serving office in the world, with 12,000 colleagues in the city.

Angus has a particular interest in building the skills that Londoners need for the future and researches the future of work in the digital age as visiting professor of the Centre for the Digital

Economy (CoDE) at the University of Surrey. He is a Member of the Mayor’s Skills for Londoners Board, Chair of the Outcomes for Londoners Working Group and an advisory Board Member to the All Party Parliamentary Group on the Fourth Industrial Revolution. He has previously served as a Commissioner of the London Skills Commission.

Angus holds an MA from the University of Cambridge and is a freeman of the City of London.

Angus represents London on the LEP Network Board.

**C-J Green**  
New Anglia LEP



CJ Green is Co-Founder and Executive Director of BraveGoose, a technology driven Human Resources Advice solution.

Her career has been predominantly in HR in both the public and private sector. She was previously Chief People Officer and then Chief Executive Officer of a Suffolk-based firm with a global workforce of 26,000.

CJ is also a Trustee of Pepal who connect non-government organisations and global corporations to find solutions to social issues, she believes strongly in the capability of business as a force for good and feels passionately that the eastern region is an example of what is possible in that regard.

**Lucy Winskell OBE**  
**North East LEP**

**North East**  
Local Enterprise Partnership



Lucy is Pro Vice-Chancellor (Employability & Partnerships) at Northumbria University.

She has been a member of the Executive team at Northumbria University since 2010, having made the transition into higher education following a 28-year career as a litigation lawyer.

Lucy's non-executive career has been focussed on economic growth and regeneration within the North East. Her

regional roles have included Board Member of the North East Regional Investment Fund and North East Access to Finance (both supporting SME growth); non-executive Director of Government Office North East; Chair of the North East Industrial Development Board; Board Member of ING; Vice Chair of BE Group and a Member of CBI Regional Council.

Lucy has been Chair of the Board of the North East England Chamber of Commerce (NEECC) for six years and will stand down from this role shortly.

She has also been a strong advocate for the region at a national level. As a member of Arts and Humanities Research Council she highlighted the importance of the cultural and creative sector in a regional economy, and as Vice Chair of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) she has ensured a regional voice forms part of BCC's lobbying and policy work.

**Jeremy Long**  
**Oxfordshire LEP**



Jeremy has a broad-ranging career leading and developing a wide-range of businesses in customer services, IT, marketing, leisure, travel and hospitality.

Until October 2020, Jeremy was CEO for Europe of the Hong-Kong headquartered international railway and property group MTR Corporation.

Jeremy is an experienced chair having worked extensively with both Westminster and local authorities.

He has championed skills and employment initiatives, as a former Member of the Mayor of London Skills and Employment Board, former Director of London Development Agency and Chair of their Business and Skills Committee. The development of business and the skills to support growth is at the heart of Jeremy's motivation for joining OxLEP.

On the LEP Network Board, Jeremy represents the Ox-Cam-Arc region which covers Oxfordshire LEP, Buckinghamshire LEP, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Business Board, New Anglia LEP, and South East Midlands LEP.

**James Muir**  
Sheffield City Region LEP

## Sheffield City Region



In 1983 James joined a manufacturer of tableware, spending his first year working full time in the factory. Three years later he joined Ford Motor Company and held various sales and marketing positions, including Sales Director of Ford Switzerland, and Regional Director for the North of England. In 2001 he was appointed Managing Director responsible for establishing Mazda's own company in the UK. In 2003 he was promoted to Mazda's European headquarters near Cologne, first as Vice-President of Sales &

Marketing and then as President and CEO of Mazda Europe where he led the Company's turnaround from loss-maker to Mazda Corporation's most profitable business unit in the world. In 2009 James joined Volkswagen Group as President and CEO of SEAT based in Barcelona and tasked with revitalising its ailing brand. Over the following four years he led the complete restructuring of the company including the development of a new brand and product strategy. Since mid-2013 James was based in Wolfsburg, Germany, responsible for running the VW Group's owned national sales companies across more than 20 countries world-wide, accounting for more than 4m vehicle sales with over €80bn of turnover. In December 2018 James retired from VW Group. He is the Chair of the Astrea Academy Trust Board, one of England's largest multi academy trusts.

**Brian Johnson**  
(Interim Chair) Solent LEP



Brian is the UK Business Development Director at BAE Systems Maritime and works in Portsmouth Naval Base.

He brings a wealth of private sector experience to his role within the LEP Board, with over 20 years' experience in the Marine and Maritime sector at organisations such as Thales, Marconi and the aforementioned BAE Systems.

Brian is also the Chair of the Maritime Defence and Security Group council of the Society of Maritime Industries. Brian represents and engages with the SME business community as our LEP Board SME Champion.

**Christian Brodie**  
South East LEP



Christian has high-level experience in business, international finance, higher education and working closely with Government departments.

His previous Chair roles include the Student Loans Company, Public Chairs Forum, Pentathlon GB, the Council of the University of Sussex, the Regulatory Partnership Group for Higher Education and the Council of UCAS. As well as holding directorships in a number of private companies, he is a member of the Greater Anglia Stakeholders Advisory Group. He also serves on the Grants

Committee of the Wates Foundation, his family charity supporting projects principally in London and the South East.

After reading law at Oxford University, Christian took on legal roles in corporate finance in the City of London and on Wall Street. He subsequently joined the financial services industry where his career progressed to Vice Chairman of UBS Investment Bank, reporting to the Chief Executive.

On the LEP Network Board, Christian represents Catalyst South group of LEPs which includes South East LEP, Coast to Capital LEP, Enterprise M3 LEP, Hertfordshire LEP, Solent LEP, and Thames Valley Berkshire LEP.

**Peter Horrocks CBE**  
South East Midlands LEP



Peter was Vice-Chancellor of The Open University from 2015 until April 2018. Prior to joining the OU, Peter was Director of the BBC World Service.

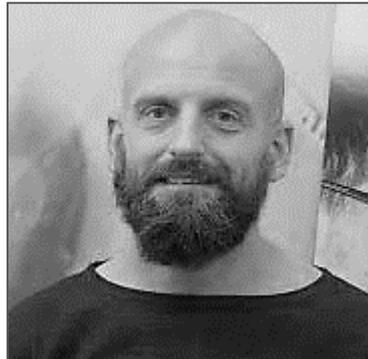
At the Open University Peter devised the university's strategy Students First bringing a new 'digital by design' approach to the university's teaching. He oversaw significant restructuring and the prioritisation of resources for student benefit. He also chaired FutureLearn, the UK's only higher education open social learning higher

education platform. FutureLearn has over 7 million users globally.

At the BBC, Peter held several roles, including being editor of Newsnight and Panorama, Head of Current Affairs, Head of TV News and Head of Multimedia News. He won two BAFTA awards for his journalism. In 2015 Peter was awarded a CBE for Services to Broadcasting.

Peter volunteers as a careers adviser in schools and is the chair of members for a local academy schools trust.

**Alun Rogers**  
Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP



Alun co-founded Stafford-based IT firm risual with business partner Richard Proud in 2005, building on his previous experience as an IT consultant.

The duo self-funded the launch of the business, which has gone on to win numerous awards and become a Microsoft strategic partner for public and private sector clients. The firm provides IT consultancy, systems management and

service support, plus a suite of IT systems, and today employs some 120 staff.

Beginning with Stafford College, risual has partnered with a range of FE colleges across the country to set up risual academies providing training in digital and IT skills.

**Paul Moorby OBE**  
Swindon & Wiltshire LEP



Paul founded Chipside Limited in 2003, a rural employer in Brinkworth.

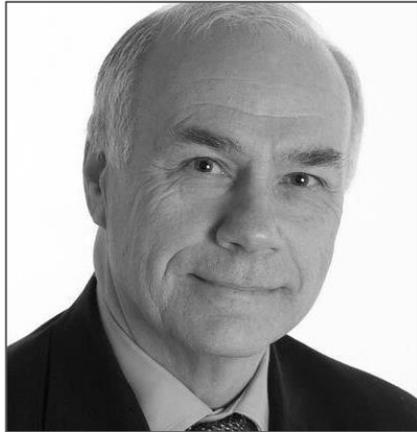
The company is a leading UK tech company, providing Mipermit services to both local government and the public across the UK.

Paul has worked with local government on digital transformation projects for over 25 years.

He was awarded an OBE in 2019 for services to promoting UK Technology abroad.

In April 2019, Mipermit was recognised with a Queen's Award for Enterprise, Innovation.

**Paul Booth OBE**  
Tees Valley Unlimited LEP



Paul Booth worked in the chemical industry for more than 40 years. Born on Teesside, he started his career as an apprentice with ICI and retired in 2016 as the Chairman of Sabic UK Petrochemicals as well as its European Director for Government Policy and Public Affairs.

He is a member of the CIA Council, ex-Chairman of the North East Process Industry Cluster, one of the industrialists on the new UK CGP, and a Board Member for Plastics Europe North.

He sits on the Board of Governors for Teesside University and was previously a member of Redcar and Cleveland Technical College, NSAPI (National Skills Academy) and the TTE Training School. Paul is also Honorary President for SCI (Society of Chemical Industry) in the UK.

**Bob Beveridge**  
Thames Valley Berkshire LEP



Bob has a diverse business career in both large organisations and SMEs within the consumer goods and technology sectors and has lived in Berkshire for 39 years.

Bob spent 12 years at Mars Chocolate in Slough, in finance and sales roles, ultimately becoming pan-European Head of Finance.

After five years with United Biscuits he moved to the technology sector becoming CFO of Cable & Wireless

Communications plc.

After two further roles in the technology sector he returned to consumer goods as CFO of McBride plc, manufacturer of private label household products. Since 2010 he has been a portfolio non-executive director across a diverse range of business sectors: healthcare, technology, manufacturing and food.

**Mandy Thorn MBE**  
**The Marches LEP**



Mandy was appointed Chair of the Marches LEP in September 2019.

A leading figure in the social care sector, Mandy is chair of Shrewsbury-based Marches Care Ltd, an SME provider of nursing and dementia services.

A previous vice-chair at the LEP and former chair of Shropshire Business Board, she received her MBE in 2014 for services to dementia. She is the current

president of Shropshire Chamber of Commerce and chair of Lingen Davies Cancer Trust.

Marches Care runs the award-winning Uplands care complex on the edge of Shrewsbury at Bicton Heath and is one of the largest independent care organisations in Shropshire.

**Professor Steve West CBE DL**  
**West of England LEP**



Steve took up the post of Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West of England Bristol in 2008.

He trained as a Podiatrist and Podiatric Surgeon in London and developed his research interests in Lower Limb Biomechanics and the Diabetic Foot at King's College London. He holds a number of national and international advisory appointments in Higher Education in his

discipline, healthcare policy and practice.

Steve is a non-executive Director for the Higher Education Funding Council for England and Vice-Chair of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) South West. Steve is also Chair of the UK Mental Health Education Working Group and Chair of the Learning for and in Work Challenge Group and a Board Member of the Learning City Partnership Board.

He is the Chair of the West of England Academic Health Science Network (WEAHSN), a Board Member of Universities UK and Chair of the Universities UK Health Education and Research Policy Network and Chair of the UUK Mental Health in Higher Education Working Group.

Steve is also President of Business West and Chair of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Initiative, and Vice-Chair of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) South West.

**Mark Stansfeld**  
Worcestershire LEP



Mark started his career in the food industry at Cadbury Schweppes and Kraft Foods, but quickly moved into technology with positions at BT, T-Mobile and as Commercial Director for O2, where he was part of the board team who brought the brand to market leadership.

Alongside his Executive Director roles, Mark held non-executive roles on a number of boards spanning technology, finance and health. These included The Link Retail, West Bromwich Building Society, NHS West Midlands Strategic Health Authority, Ovo energy, O2 UK and Commercial director at CWS, B2B division at Dixons Carphone.

Currently, as well as being Chair of the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership, Worcestershire 5G Consortium and board member of UK5G, Mark is also a Board advisor to Three Mobile and Chair of Airband, a leading rural broadband provider.

**Helen Simpson OBE**  
York & North Yorkshire LEP



Born and bred in Yorkshire, Helen is an experienced Chair and Board Member, with a track record in leading organisations whilst undergoing change, including enabling digital innovation, business growth and community development.

Her non-executive experience follows a senior executive career with BT where she led digital growth businesses and major deals, developed strategy and built commercial partnerships before leading BT's volunteering programme globally.

Helen currently chairs Broadacres Housing Association, a provider of social housing, extra care and specialist provision in North Yorkshire and Trustees Unlimited, which works to improve charity governance. She also serves as a Trustee with St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity in their work with the homeless and vulnerably housed.

Helen brings expertise in leadership, strategy development, partnerships and collaboration including with government, social housing and charity and community development, as well as a passion for diverse leadership, including helping women leaders fulfil their potential.