



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Pete Abel



Pete's day job is Information and Policy officer at BikeRight! one of the UK's largest cycle training organisations. With over 25 years working in research and policy evaluation and 8 years direct work experience in the active travel sector, specialising in cycle training and cycle awareness, Pete has developed an extensive knowledge base of cycling and active travel research, data sources and policy in the United Kingdom and internationally.

Pete is also an active volunteer with Manchester Friends of the Earth - campaigning mainly on air quality, cycling (Love Your Bike) and transport issues but would prefer to spend time on the allotment!

John Alker



John is Director of Policy & Places at UK Green Building Council (UK-GBC), where he leads the organisation's advocacy strategy, working with government and the private sector through its campaigns and major projects. This includes leading UK-GBC's growing programme of work on cities, bringing city policy-makers together with industry to catalyse sustainable place-making.

Prior to joining UK-GBC shortly after its launch in 2007, John led political communications on emissions trading and sustainable homes campaigns for the environmental charity WWF-UK. He has also previously worked as an MP's researcher in the House of Commons and in commercial public affairs.

Kevin Anderson



Kevin Anderson holds the Zennström professorship at Uppsala University and is chair of energy and climate change at the School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering (MACE) at the University of Manchester. He is deputy director of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and a non-executive director of Greenstone Carbon Management. Kevin is research active with recent publications in Science, Nature and Nature Geosciences.

Kevin engages widely across all tiers of government (UK and Sweden) on issues ranging from shale gas, aviation and shipping to the role of climate modelling (IAMs), carbon budgets and 'negative emission technologies'. His analysis previously contributed to the framing of the UK's Climate Change Act and the development of national carbon budgets.

Kevin has a decade's industrial experience, principally in the petrochemical industry. He is a chartered engineer and a fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

Jonathan Atkinson



Jonathan Atkinson is a board member and co-founder of Carbon Co-op, a community energy enterprise based in Greater Manchester, focussed on delivering energy systems innovation and whole house retrofit.

He oversaw the establishment of Carbon Co-op and has since delivered much of its work as project manager including Community Green Deal, a project delivering deep retrofit to owner occupiers at scale and an affordable prices and Nobel Grid, a European-wide smart grids projects to enable co-operatives and communities to take control of their energy systems.

Throughout his career he has explored the potential for co-operative and collective action to create change.

Mike Barry



Mike is Director of Sustainable Business at the retailer Marks & Spencer.

He was part of the small team that in 2007 developed and delivered the company's ground-breaking Plan A, a 100 point, 5 year plan to address a wide range of environmental and social issues and updated it in 2010, 2014 and 2017.

Mike's job is to work with the M&S leadership team to integrate sustainability into the heart of the business across its global retail channels and supply chains. This includes developing the business case; coaching/mentoring colleagues; changing business processes; customer and stakeholder engagement; and business model innovation.

He is Co-Chair of the Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) Sustainability Steering Group, a Visiting

Fellow at the Smith Centre for Enterprise and the Environment at Oxford University, a Senior Associate at the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership.

Paul Bircham



Paul is a business leader with experience of innovation, strategy and business development and its implementation.

He has over 20 years of experience at a senior level in energy, utilities and infrastructure environments with broad overseas and international exposure.

He has been a director of TXU Europe Distribution, United Utilities Electricity, Energy Networks Association, Electricity Association Services and most recently Electricity North West where Paul is currently the Director responsible for Commercial

Strategy and Support Services.

His current portfolio of responsibilities includes Regulatory Liaison and Government Affairs, Investment Planning, Commercial Strategy and Innovation, Procurement, IT and Telecoms.

David Brimelow



David Brimelow is the founder and Chairman of Duo UK. Duo UK has been manufacturing, sourcing & distributing packaging products to leading retail and ecommerce brands including Tesco, JD Williams and myHermes since 1988.

David believes that packaging is a necessity but one that doesn't have to put a strain on the world's natural resources and applied in the correct way it can in fact help a company reduce its impact on the environment.

Duo UK has a dedicated sustainable packaging micro site DuoGreen, a polythene closed loop recycling system and is proud to be the first producer of mailing bags made from sugarcane (GreenPE) in the UK.

Eric Brown



Eric joined Innovate UK in April 2014 as Energy Systems Catapult Programme Manager. In this role he supported strategy development and planning and, in addition, led projects aimed at building early capability and presence for the Energy Systems Catapult. In April 2015, when the Catapult was fully established, he became Interim Head of Strategy and Innovation. In 2016 Eric was appointed to his current role, Director of Innovation.

Eric combines an electrical engineering background with many years' experience in the telecommunications industry.

Educated in Canada, Eric has a BSc in Mathematics and Physics, a BEng in Electrical Engineering and an MSc in Electrical Engineering. He is a Chartered Engineer and a Fellow of the IET.

Georgia Bulled



Georgia is a 20 year old student at Manchester Metropolitan University studying BSc Environmental Management and Sustainability. Previously she attended Bedford Modern School from 11 to 18 years old, achieving A-Levels in Product Design; Geography; and Religious Studies.

Georgia has kept busy during her summers with a trip to Sri Lanka working with turtle conservation and completing the Three Peaks Challenge. Now at university she is a Carbon Literacy Trainer; Sustainability Ambassador; and has been a Woodland Trust Ambassador. Furthermore, she enjoys being a member of both the Mountaineering and Equestrian society and being outside as much as possible.

Lindsey Chapman



Lindsey presents Springwatch Unsprung with Chris Packham on BBC Two; a live TV show celebrating the very best of UK wildlife.

She is also the co-presenter (alongside Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall) of BBC One's Big Blue UK, a programme exploring British marine life.

Lindsey has written and presented Arts programmes for BBC Radio 4, she is the lead presenter for @BBC and @BBCArts, and a regular voice on BBC Radio 5 live.

Lindsey is a specialist in social media and online broadcast and has worked across Wildlife, Arts, Features and Children's. She has hosted worldwide live streams from Shakespeare's Globe, Sadler's Wells and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Lindsey grew up in rural East Yorkshire and has an innate interest in the countryside and the sea. She is also a keen netball and tennis player.

Rosslyn Colderley



Sustrans is the charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle. Rosslyn's background is active travel and environmental conservation, with over twenty years' experience of leading, inspiring and motivating teams to achieve outstanding results. Her fabulous team are engineers and educators, experts and advocates. They connect people and places, create liveable neighbourhoods, transform the school run and deliver a happier, healthier commute. Sustrans make the case for walking and cycling using robust evidence, such as in the 'Bike Life' reports; recognising that grassroots support combined with robust evidence and strong political leadership drives

real change. Rosslyn especially loves audacious projects like the 14,000 mile National Cycle Network, used by millions of people – in fact, mainly walking - every year. Previous projects include a Victorian Boat Lift restoration in Northwich and a floating visitor centre at Brockholes Nature Reserve near Preston. In her spare time, she chairs the fundraising group for the £10m redevelopment of the Octagon Theatre in Bolton.

Lucy Danger



Lucy is best known for Greater Manchester's most pioneering social enterprise business groups, EMERGE which provides high quality solutions to businesses across the city-region for waste and recycling including confidential data and wood.

Whilst driving more sustainable resource management locally EMERGE also delivers local job creation plus valuable work experience and employability training helping hundreds of people return to paid employment over the last 20 years.

Lucy has led in developing a strategic partnership with FareShare – the national food redistribution charity - and EMERGE has runs FareShare Greater Manchester since 2008, assisting hundreds of schools and voluntary groups who in

turn those in need – by providing over 4000 tonnes of surplus in-date food.

Lucy has been instrumental in supporting the creation of the Good Food Greater Manchester Partnership, in order to bridge what she and colleagues see as a major gap in policy and action, on sustainable food access and provision.

Amer Gaffer



Amer Gaffer is a sustainability professional with over 18 years' experience within the low carbon sector arena for both public and private sector organisations. Amer launched the Greater Manchester Hydrogen Partnership (GMHP) project at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) in 2013 with GMCA with aims of introducing Hydrogen Fuel Cell technology to the region via a series of demonstration, research and outreach projects.

Amer is leading the creation of the Manchester Fuel Cell Innovation Centre at the University which is a new £4M facility due to open in May 2018 to work with SME's, Industry and stakeholders to advance innovation in Hydrogen & Fuel Cells.

Emma Howard Boyd



Emma has spent her 25 year career working in financial services, initially in corporate finance, and then in fund management, specialising in sustainable investment and corporate governance. As Director of Stewardship at Jupiter Asset Management until July 2014, Emma was integral to the development of their reputation in the corporate governance and sustainability fields.

Emma is currently Chair of the Environment Agency and serves on various boards and advisory committees including, Green Finance Taskforce (Member), ShareAction (Chair of Trustees), Menhaden Capital PLC, the Aldersgate Group, the 30% Club and the Executive Board of The Prince's Accounting for Sustainability Project.

Andy Burnham



Andy Burnham was elected as Mayor of Greater Manchester in May 2017.

Prior to this Andy was MP for Leigh from 2001. In government, Andy has held Ministerial positions at the Home Office, Department of Health and the Treasury. In 2008 he became Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, before returning to Health as Secretary of State in 2009.

In opposition, Andy has served as Shadow Education Secretary, Shadow Health Secretary and Shadow Home Secretary.

Andy lives in Leigh, Greater Manchester, with his wife and three children. He is a keen supporter of Everton FC.

Councillor Alex Ganotis



Councillor Alex Ganotis has been leader of Stockport Council since May 2016, when Labour became the largest Group on the Council. He leads the first Labour administration in Stockport since the Council was created in 1974. He has been councillor for Heaton North ward since 2011.

In May 2017, Alex was appointed by Andy Burnham as the GMCA's lead member for the Green City Region portfolio, focusing on Greater Manchester's efforts to improve and protect the environment, green spaces and air quality. In 2016/17, Alex led on the GMCA's culture and arts portfolio.

Rogers Govender



Rogers Govender was appointed the Dean of Manchester in January 2006.

His role at the Cathedral has involved major fabric interventions and repairs as well as extensive change management of the outreach ministry of the Cathedral as Mother Church of the Diocese of Manchester. He has spearheaded the outreach to other faith communities and the statutory sector and community groups. The Cathedral is now known for its reputation as a place of gathering for the entire community without exception. This has placed the Cathedral at the centre of

religious and civic life of the city.

Rogers has a special interest in leadership development and is a regular speaker at Common Purpose and other community events. He is a founding trustee of We Stand Together, a member of Manchester Climate Change Board, and First Patron of The Booth Centre for homelessness and Patron of CAHN (Caribbean & African Health Network for Manchester). He is also a member of Our Manchester, the representative group responsible for setting the ten year strategy for the development of the City of Manchester.

Rogers' holistic theology and love for God fires his belief that religion, and especially the Church, can make a positive difference in society and seeks to build alliances and working together across various divides to add value to our common life.

Chris Matthews



Chris became Head of Sustainability at United Utilities in 2009. His prime focus is to help the business deliver its objectives in a sustainable way through the development and implementation of environmental and social strategies. This covers areas such as biodiversity, waste, carbon management, community partnerships and charitable giving.

He works with several groups to encourage responsible business behaviour and to explore opportunities for collaborative working. He is vice-chair of the Greater Manchester Combined Authorities' Natural Capital Group and a member

of the North West Business Leadership Team's Essential Resources Taskforce. Nationally, he is a member of Business in the Community's Environment Leadership Team and Water Taskforce.

Steve Mogford



Steve Mogford was appointed Chief Executive of United Utilities PLC in March 2011. FTSE100 listed, United Utilities provides water and wastewater services to approximately seven million customers in the North West of England.

Steve started his career at British Aerospace at its North West based military aircraft business. During his long career with the company he held a number of senior positions before being appointed Chief Operating Officer and a member of the BAE Systems plc Board. Steve then joined Finmeccanica, Italy's principal defence and

security company as Chief Executive of SELEX Galileo.

Steve is the Senior Independent Director with G4S, the leading global, integrated company specialising in the delivery of security and related services to customers across six continents.

Beth Perry



Beth is a Professorial Fellow at the Urban Institute at the University of Sheffield. Her research focusses on processes and practices of urban transformation, coproductive urban governance, citizen participation and the just city. She is the UK Director of Realising Just Cities, a 4-year international programme of research and action in the Mistra Urban Futures centre, with partners in the Global North and South. Currently, she is also working on two nationally funded ESRC projects Jam and

Justice: Coproducing Urban Governance for Social Innovation and Whose Knowledge Matters.

Beth supports a collaborative programme of work between academics, individuals and organisations working for progressive social, spatial and environmental change in the North of England. Across Greater Manchester and Sheffield there are over 20 action research projects on topics from planning, environmental justice and food to cultural heritage and community empowerment. Beth has lived or worked in Greater Manchester for over 20 years. She is committed to a critical but hopeful social science that seeks to contribute to progressive urban transformation. She has also just published two co-authored books - Cities and the Knowledge Economy: Promise, Politics and Possibilities and Reflexivity: the Essential Guide.

Anne Selby



Anne is the CEO of the Wildlife Trust for Lancashire Manchester and Merseyside. Her passion is for reconnecting people to nature and her Trust has been at the forefront of this, working on community based, local initiatives that cover health, food, green infrastructure, environmental education and volunteering. Anne admits to being an escaped town planner and has held various government appointments, including, Board Member for the NW Development Agency and Heritage Lottery Fund Regional Committee.

In Greater Manchester, Anne chairs the Natural Capital Group (Local Nature Partnership) which champions environmental matters and reports into the Combined Authority via the Low Carbon Hub. Recent priorities have been the GM Spatial Planning Framework and the designation of the GM Wetland as a Nature Improvement Area.

Greater Manchester was recently selected as the 'urban pioneer' for DEFRA's 25 Year Environment Strategy. Anne and the team at GM have been working with DEFRA staff to define the 'exam questions' for the pioneer.

Cel Spellman



Ceallach "Cel" Spellman, is an English actor and presenter known for playing Malky McConnell in the BBC Two mockumentary The Cup, Harry Fisher in the BBC One drama Waterloo Road from 2010–11 and hosting Friday Download and the CBBC Official Chart Show.

Since July 2015 he has presented his own show on BBC Radio 1 which airs Sunday afternoons between 16:00 and 19:00. He also stars as Matthew Williams in Cold Feet, and contributes to The Voice UK.

Alice Webb



Director of BBC Children's since February 2015, Alice added the BBC in the North to her remit in May 2016.

Alice is responsible for the UK's two most popular networks for our youngest audiences, CBeebies and CBBC, along with their associated websites, YouTube channels, apps and radio stations. In 2016, she launched the BBC's Big Digital Plan for Children, outlining how the corporation will keep pace with the rapidly changing way in which children consume content. This was followed by the launch of a dedicated children's iPlayer app in 2016 and the largest new investment in content for children for a generation in 2017 – £34m over three years.

Passionate about the BBC's presence in the north, Alice's extended remit sees her drive creativity, collaboration and local partnerships across the whole of the north of England, building on what has been achieved in the last six years. She has already played a huge part in the success of BBC North since the move in 2011 and enjoys the leading the BBC right across the North alongside her leadership of the BBC's children's services.

From 2011 to 2014, Alice was Chief Operating Officer (COO) for BBC North and successfully orchestrated the biggest BBC move outside of London when key BBC departments including Sport, BBC Children's, 5 live and BBC Learning moved to Salford. Around 35,000 hours of output a year across TV, Radio and the Red Button are now made in the North, with 3,000 staff based at MediaCityUK.

Originally Alice was a chartered civil engineer – working on large scale engineering projects in the UK and overseas.

Alice supports a range of external organisations, including being a member of the Royal Foundation's Cyberbullying Taskforce and a Trustee of BBC Children in Need. She lives in the North West with her family.