

Speaker Biographies



Joe Andrew
Global Chairman, Dentons

Joe Andrew is the Global Chairman of Dentons, the largest law firm in the world with more than 9000 lawyers in 163 locations across 70 countries. An accomplished and highly regarded corporate lawyer, Mr Andrew may be best known for his role as chairman of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) in the US from 1999 to 2001.

As Global Chairman of Dentons, Mr Andrew is the architect of Dentons' global strategy. He represents Dentons with clients around the world, key strategic partners, business and government leaders and other external groups. Central to his work has been his vision for the law firm of the future, which includes Dentons' growth, integration and reinvention, such as Nextlaw Labs and Nextlaw Referral Network.

He is a graduate of Yale University and The Yale Law School. He is married to former U.S. Ambassador Anne Slaughter Andrew and has two adult children.



Charlotte Barbour
Director of Taxation, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland

Charlotte has worked for ICAS for many years in a range of policy and regulatory roles and for the last five years has supported the ICAS Tax Board, which has overall responsibility for all tax matters affecting ICAS members and oversight of five technical Committees responsible for Scottish taxes, private client taxes, international taxes, indirect taxes, and small business taxes. She has extensive experience in dealing with tax issues and has represented ICAS at both the Scottish Parliament and the House of Lords, and regularly speaks on both radio and TV.

Charlotte is the author of the Bloomsbury book entitled *The Management of Taxes in Scotland*.



Mark Bevan
Chief Executive, SCDI

Mark joined the Scottish Council for Development and Industry as CEO in May 2017 www.scdi.org.uk because he is ambitious for Scotland to be the best small country in the world in which to live, work and spend leisure time. The diversity, objectivity and collective intelligence of SCDI's members can make that happen. Mark is an experienced Executive and Non-Executive Director joining SCDI from BITC, HRH The Prince of Wales responsible business network, where he was the Scotland MD.



Jackie Brock
Chief Executive, Children in Scotland

Jackie Brock has been Chief Executive for Children in Scotland for 5 years during which its membership, services and income has expanded and increased significantly. Its vision is to improve the lives of every child through a range of activities to support children and families and also by its training, information and development of the children's sector workforce. Prior to this Jackie was the Depute Director of learning and Support at the Scottish Government. She has also worked in local government. Jackie is a non Executive Director of Healthcare Improvement Scotland and a member of SCDI's Policy Committee.



Keith Brown MSP
Cabinet Secretary for the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work

Keith Brown was appointed Cabinet Secretary for the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work in May 2016. Mr Brown served with the Royal Marines before pursuing a career in local government administration, where he was also an active trade union representative with UNISON. He is a graduate of Dundee University and studied at the University of Prince Edward Island. He has been a Member of the Scottish Parliament since 2007 and currently represents Clackmannanshire and Dunblane. Before his election he served for 11 years as a Councillor in Clackmannanshire and held the post of Council Leader from 1999 to 2003.

He became Minister for Skills and Lifelong Learning in February 2009 and has since held a number of ministerial roles. He was appointed Minister for Transport and Veterans in September 2012 and Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities in November 2014.



Peter Cheese
Chief Executive, Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development

Peter is the chief executive of the CIPD, the professional body for more than 145,000 HR and people development professionals around the world. He writes and speaks widely on the development of HR, the future of work, and the key issues of leadership, culture and organisation, people and skills.

Peter is a visiting Professor at the University of Lancaster, and holds honorary doctorates from Bath and Kingston Universities. He is a Fellow of the CIPD, AHRI (the Australian HR Institute) and the Academy of Social Sciences. He's also a Companion of the Institute of Leadership and Management, the Chartered Management Institute, and the British Academy of Management. Prior to joining the CIPD in July 2012, he was Chairman of the Institute of Leadership and Management and a member of the Council of City&Guilds. Up until 2009 he had a long career at Accenture holding various leadership positions and culminating in a seven year spell as Global Managing Director, leading the firm's human capital and organisation consulting practice.



Jonny Clark
Managing Director, ITP Energised

Jonny is the Managing Director of the rapidly growing ITP Energised, an Edinburgh headquartered energy and environmental consultancy. The business started in 2013 and now also has UK offices in Aberdeen, Glasgow, London and Bristol. Exporting the team's expertise is a core strategy, delivering projects across the globe, including; Alaska, Australia, Cabo Verde, The Caribbean, China, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, India, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Mozambique, New Zealand and Taiwan.

Jonny is also a director of OnGen Ltd, which has developed an innovative commercial assessment software product for on-site renewable technologies and storage. Its mission is to reduce an organisation's total cost of energy consumption, provide greater security of supply and help reduce their carbon footprint.



David Coyne
Director, Centre for Work-based Learning

David Coyne is Director of the recently created Centre for Work-based Learning in Scotland. He also performs a role in Skills Development Scotland providing advice on Employability, Fair Work and Labour Market Strategy. He has held a number of leadership roles prior to joining The Centre for Work-based Learning, including Head of City Deal and Head of Economic Development for Glasgow City Council.



Mark Dames
Head of Policy and Public Affairs, BT Scotland

Mark Dames is Head of Policy and Public Affairs for BT Scotland, and a member of the BT Scotland Board. Mark started his career with BT at the company's research and development laboratories at Martlesham Heath, Ipswich. Working in the Optical Physics division, he was part of a world-class team carrying out research into novel optical switching technologies and architectures for application in future-generation telecommunications networks. He also spent a period of his career with Accenture, working on the development of the world's first interactive digital television and advanced data services platform.

A Chartered Engineer and Chartered Physicist, Mark lives in Edinburgh.



Brendan Dick
SCDI Chair and Director, BT Scotland

Brendan's prime responsibility is to develop BT's Regional activities across Scotland, Wales and the English regions, looking after BT's group wide interests and driving BT's local agenda across the BT Lines of Business.

A graduate of the University of Edinburgh, much of Brendan's early career was spent in information technology designing, developing and deploying large systems across the UK. Brendan is Chair of the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Honorary President of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, a Director of Scottish Golf, a CBI Scotland Council member, a trustee of the International Futures Forum and a member of the Lowland Reserve Forces Regional Employer Support Group.

Married with two children and two grandchildren, Brendan is a Past Captain of his local golf club and an enthusiastic, if slow, recreational cyclist.



Martin Dorchester
Chief Executive, Includem

Martin Dorchester is the CEO of Includem, a specialist charity supporting young people and their families when they need it most. He was previously CEO of David MacBrayne Ltd (UK's largest Ferry company) and Dixons International B2B. He served as Chair of Firstport for 4 years and has wide experience in the private, public and third sector. He is currently a non-executive director of Transport for Wales and has held a variety of Non-Executive roles.

Martin is a keen academic and believer in lifelong learning. He has lectured at three UK universities and speaks frequently at conferences around the world.



Crawford Falconer
Chief Trade Negotiation Adviser and Second Permanent Secretary, Department for International Trade

Crawford Falconer is Chief Trade Negotiation Adviser and Second Permanent Secretary for the Department for International Trade. He also heads the trade negotiation profession within the Civil Service.

Crawford has spent over 25 years working on trade policy and trade negotiations both inside and outside government. He has worked in a number of high-profile positions including as the New Zealand Chief Negotiator and Adviser. He most recently served as Professor of Global Value Chains and Trade at Lincoln University, New Zealand. Crawford's previous roles include:

Deputy Secretary (Vice Minister) in the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

New Zealand Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization (WTO) Geneva

Chair of the WTO DOHA round negotiations on agriculture and cotton

Trade strategy coordinator and WTO senior official for the New Zealand Foreign and Trade Ministry

Leading trade projects at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on services and trade value added

Director of Multilateral trade in the New Zealand Trade Ministry

Fellow at the New Zealand Institute of Policy Studies.

Crawford studied at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and the London School of Economics. In a personal capacity, he is a past Chair of the OECD Trade Committee, the WTO Subsidies Committee and the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council National Committee. He has been a judge on over 15 international trade disputes brought before the WTO, including recently on long-running Boeing-Airbus dispute. Crawford has written several publications, including (with Sir Frank Holmes) "Open Regionalism, NAFTA, CER and a Pacific Basin Initiative".

Crawford is a dual-national UK and New Zealand citizen.



Professor Patricia Findlay
Co-Chair of the Fair Work Convention and Professor of Work and Employment Relations, University of Strathclyde

Professor Patricia Findlay is Co-Chair of Scotland's Fair Work Convention. She is Professor of Work and Employment Relations and Director of the Scottish Centre for Employment Research at the University of Strathclyde Business School. An expert in the study of work and the management of the employment relationship, she leads Innovating Works ... improving work and workplaces and linked research and knowledge exchange activities on Fair, Innovative and Transformative work (FITwork). Workplace innovation is at the core of her research, with specific focus on improving job quality (including through workplace practice re-configuration and technological change); workplace skills and learning; improving equality; and workplace governance and decision making.

Professor Findlay is a member of the Scotland Can Do Business Innovation Forum, the Economic and Social Research Council's Peer Review College and a longstanding member of Employment Tribunals Scotland, having previously been a member of the Scottish Government's Working Together Review Group.



Susan Fouquier
Regional Managing Director, Business Banking Scotland, Royal Bank of Scotland

For the past three years Susan has been managing the Royal Bank team that looks after SME's in Scotland. She is passionate about supporting business expansion, job creation and economic growth in Scotland. She is currently a secondee to the Bank's Strategy & Innovation team, tasked with reviewing Personal & Business Banking's approach to innovation. Susan is the current chair of Business in the Community's Ideas & Innovation leadership group, sits on The Royal Bank's Scotland Board and the Converge Challenge Strategic Advisory Board.

A working mother of three boys, she is a champion for diversity within the workplace.



Chris Gaffney
Group Finance Director, Johnstons of Elgin

Chris Gaffney joined Johnstons of Elgin as Group Finance Director in 2011. Chris has a wide remit within the luxury textile manufacturer and retailer, as he is also now the MD of the main manufacturing site at Elgin. He previously worked in various commercially orientated finance roles in Food & Drink, most recently with Belhaven/Greene King, but also Grampian Country Food Group, Geest and Baxters.

Chris was born in Hawick (where Johnstons also have a knitwear mill) but grew up in Elgin. He joined the Highlands and Islands committee of SCDI shortly after his return to Moray. He was educated at Elgin Academy, Abertay Uni (BA Economics), Norther College of Education (PGCE), Chartered Management Accountant, OU MBA.



Roger Halliday
Chief Statistician and Data Officer, Scottish Government

Roger Halliday started as Chief Statistician in November 2011 and brought this together with the Chief Data Officer role in April 2017. Before that, he worked in the Department of Health in England as a policy analyst managing evidence for decision making across NHS issues.

He qualified with a degree in statistics in 1993 from St. Andrews University and joined the Government fast stream as an assistant statistician. He worked for various UK Government Departments and at the Scottish Government in a number of statistical and policy making roles. His areas of expertise are around transforming services with data, and has experience working in the fields of health, children, learning, skills and the economy.



Tim Harford
Financial Times Columnist and Economic Commentator

Tim Harford is a world-renowned behavioural economist, an award-winning Financial Times columnist, and a BBC broadcaster. He has been described as 'Britain's Malcolm Gladwell,' and by the New Statesman as 'perhaps the best popular economics writer in the world'. He brings storytelling, humour and intelligence to an oft-maligned discipline. With a knack for finding fascinating explanations for everyday numbers, Tim's first two books, *The Logic of Life* and *The Undercover Economist*, have been translated into 30 languages and sold well over a million copies. His Radio 4 show *More or Less* looks at the truth behind dubious statistics and manipulated figures. Whilst he's a 'serious' economist with a career spanning Oxford, Shell and the World Bank, Tim's FT columns dwell on the economics of daily life and offer tongue-in-cheek solutions to readers' problems. His first book built on these themes and *The Undercover Economist* was likened to *Freakonomics* in its examination and explanation of the workings of everything from coffee shops to organised crime to development aid.

Tim's other titles include: *The Logic of Life* which applies economic theory to the world to explain how rational (or otherwise) our decisions are; *Adapt: Why Success Always Starts With Failure* shows how challenges of all types and sizes can't be solved with simple ready-made solutions - we must learn to improvise and account for the necessity of failure; and *Messy: How to Be Creative and Resilient in a Tidy-Minded World* which considers why tidiness, organisation and predictability aren't always the best environments to foster creativity, innovation and achievement.

A regular TED speaker, Tim also looks at why it's so hard yet so important to learn from mistakes, how to deal with uncertainty, how forecasting works and what to do when it doesn't, and what innovation really means and why the wrong sort of innovation can be a distraction. Taking in everything from the military to game shows, aviation to ballet, global catastrophes to finding the right socks he questions received wisdom, common sense and statistical certainty. Tim's accessible, easy style provides entertaining, thought-provoking insights relevant to every person and organisation.



Edel Harris
Chief Executive, Cornerstone

Edel Harris joined Cornerstone, one of Scotland's largest charities, as Chief Executive in May 2008 having previously been Deputy Chief Executive of Aberdeen Foyer. A former Metropolitan Police Officer Edel's background is in health promotion, holding a first class honours degree in Health and Social Care. She spent eight years working for NHS Grampian and has significant experience in setting up and leading successful social enterprises and in developing new social care services.

Edel is a Director of the Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust, Director of Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI) and of Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce, having served as the first female President in the history of the organisation. She was one of the first Directors of Opportunity North East (ONE), former Chair of The Life Changes Trust and former Chair of the Scottish Government's Social Investment Fund.

Amongst Edel's many achievements she was awarded the 2015 IOD North East Director of the Year accolade, became the Scottish EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2017 and most recently received an Honorary Doctorate from the Robert Gordons University.



Bill Jamieson
Freelance Writer on Business and Economy

Bill Jamieson is the Former Executive Editor of The Scotsman and Executive Editor of The Sunday Telegraph. He is also the Founder and editor of the ScotBuzz website



Robert Wood Johnson
U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

President Donald J. Trump nominated Robert Wood Johnson to be United States Ambassador to the Court of St. James's on June 22, 2017. The United States Senate confirmed Ambassador-designate Johnson on August 3, 2017. In the Oval Office he was sworn in by Vice President Mike Pence in the presence of President Donald J. Trump on August 21, 2017. He presented his credentials to the United Kingdom's Foreign and Commonwealth Office on August 29, 2017.

Ambassador Johnson has served for more than thirty years as the Chairman and CEO of The Johnson Company, New York, a private asset management firm. Since 2000 he has been the Chairman and CEO of the New York Jets American football team and New York Jets Foundation.

Ambassador Johnson is the Founding Chairman of the Lupus Research Alliance and worked for many years with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The missions of these charities are to cure, treat and prevent Lupus and Type 1 diabetes.

Ambassador Johnson has served on the President's Export Council, the President's Commission on White House Fellows and he is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Ambassador Johnson earned a B.A. from the University of Arizona and lives in London with wife Suzanne and their two sons.



Dame Barbara Kelly
SCDI Rural Champion, Crichton Campus Leadership Group & Board Member,
South of Scotland Economic Partnership

Barbara Kelly has spent a lifetime as a partner in a farming enterprise in SW Scotland and has majored on rural affairs launching Rural Forum and the Southern Upland Partnership and chairing the £30M Millennium Forest for Scotland Trust. Her main interests are in consumer affairs, equality matters, education, rural and environmental issues. Frequently the first or only woman at the table over the years her appointments have included the Clydesdale Bank plc, the Scottish Post Office Board, Scottish Enterprise, the Scottish Advisory Board for BP plc.

She was Equal Opportunities Commissioner for Scotland and Chairman of the UK Architects Registration Board. She recently stood down as Chairman of The Roberson Trust, Scotland's largest Giving Charity. She has just been elected to the Board of the new South of Scotland Economic Partnership and majors on the development of the Crichton University Campus in Dumfries.



Andrew Kerr
Chief Executive, City of Edinburgh Council

Andrew joined the City of Edinburgh Council as Chief Executive Officer in July 2015. He began his local government career with Falkirk District Council. His 35-year Public Sector Career has since included a career in Leisure where he became the Director of Leisure and Culture at Birmingham City Council and President of The Institute of Leisure Management and he has been CEO at four major local authorities in North Tyneside, Wiltshire, Cornwall and his dream job in Edinburgh.

He has delivered a £900m joint venture in waste management and has led transformation programmes in his last four authorities worth more than £200m. Andrew led the UK's first rural devolution deal in Cornwall worth £1.8bn and has now delivered the successful Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Deal worth £1.2bn. He is now leading a £147m Transformation Programme for the council and is at the heart of Edinburgh's Launch of its City Vision initiative 2050.

Andrew is also a medal winning 400m runner and represented Great Britain and Scotland at international level.



Fiona Larg
Chief Operating Officer and Secretary, University of the Highlands and Islands

Fiona joined the university in June 2007, initially undertaking the role of assistant secretary prior to her appointment as deputy secretary in September that year. In October 2009, Fiona was appointed as secretary and in January 2013, Fiona's title was updated to chief operating officer and secretary to reflect the breadth of her role. Fiona's responsibilities include managing corporate, legal and constitutional matters for the university, providing advice to court and senior officers and, in conjunction with the principal, ensuring the implementation of the court's decisions and policies. Fiona undertakes the role of company secretary ensuring compliance with company legislation and the requirements of the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator. Fiona oversees the organisation's decision-making, business and governance processes and provides professional leadership for senior officers.

Fiona was previously a general manager with Vertex Data Science Ltd and with Cap Gemini and held the post of chief executive of Inverness and Nairn Enterprise for seven years.



Gordon Lindhurst MSP
Scottish Conservative and Unionist MSP

Gordon Lindhurst was elected as a Scottish Conservative MSP for Lothian Region in May 2016. He is Convener of the Economy Jobs and Fair Work Committee of the Scottish Parliament and is Scottish Conservative spokesman for Legal Affairs. A graduate of Edinburgh University (LLB (Hons)) and Heidelberg University (LLM), a Scottish Advocate, and a barrister at law of the Middle Temple, he is also a visiting lecturer in English and Scottish Court Practice at the University of Bonn.



Annie Gunner Logan
Director, Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland

Annie Gunner Logan is the Director of CCPS - the Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland, a membership body for third sector social care organisations. On behalf of CCPS, Annie serves on a number of Scottish Government advisory groups relating to health and social care.

Annie has served as a non-executive member on a range of public and voluntary sector boards, including the UK drug and alcohol treatment charity, Phoenix Futures, and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). She currently serves on the Advisory Board for IPPR Scotland. In 2013 she was appointed by the (then) Deputy First Minister to serve on the Expert Working Group on Welfare in an Independent Scotland. In 2014 she was appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the Scottish Government.

Annie has a Masters Degree in Social and Public Policy from the University of Edinburgh.



Sinead Lynch
Chair, Shell UK

Sinead joined Shell in the role of UK Country Chair on September 1 2016. Prior to this she worked at BG Group where she was EVP Safety and Sustainability, and was responsible for the leadership and integration of Health, Safety & Asset Integrity, Security, Environment & Climate Change, Social Performance & Human Rights, Government & Policy Affairs and Communications disciplines. Sinead worked for BG since 1993, holding a wide variety of roles across business segments and disciplines.

She began her career as a Geophysicist specialising in seismic processing and modelling before taking on roles in Exploration and Development Geophysics. From 2001, Sinead worked as an Economist in the UK assets before moving into a series of senior Commercial and Business Development roles. From 2005-2007, she was VP Commercial for BG Nigeria, leading the company's upstream entry. From 2008-2011, Sinead worked as Area Commercial Manager for BG's Africa Middle East and Asia assets before taking on the role of Head of Investment Appraisal for BG. She then spent two years in Bangkok as Asset General Manager for the Thailand asset.

When the proposed combination between Shell and BG Group was announced in April 2015, Sinead took on the additional responsibility of heading the Integration Planning Team on the BG side and supported the ongoing transition of BG into Shell.

Sinead is married with two young sons.



Claire Mack
Chief Executive, Scottish Renewables

Claire has been Chief Executive of Scottish Renewables, the representative voice of Scotland's renewable energy industry, since October 2017. She is responsible for leading the organisation's work to grow Scotland's renewables sector and sustain its position at the forefront of the global clean energy industry.

Claire is a member of the First Minister's Energy Advisory Board and the Renewables Industry Advisory Group, co-chaired by Scotland's Energy Minister.

Before joining Scottish Renewables, Claire was Director of Policy and Place at the Scottish Council for Development and Industry. She has previously worked in various roles at Ofcom in Scotland, focusing on economic regulation of telecoms, radio spectrum and the mail market while also looking at developing digital participation of individuals and businesses.

Prior to this Claire worked in retail and the construction industry as well as on regulation of regional broadcasting in the Borders and North East of England.



Iain MacRitchie
Chairman and Chief Executive, MCR Holdings and MCR Pathways

Glasgow born entrepreneur and philanthropist, Iain's career has taken him internationally in the turnaround and transformation of 18 companies as Chairman or CEO and a trusted adviser to over 100 others. Experienced in leading change in organisations from 50 to 5000 employees and also having led three successful new business start-ups, Iain has a particular track record in helping develop successful teams and individuals to realise their full potential.

Setting up his Charitable Foundation in Glasgow in 2006, Iain has dedicated five years as a full-time volunteer to lead and develop the transformational MCR Pathways mentoring and talent development programme. With staff now in every secondary school in Glasgow supporting over 1000 of the most disadvantaged young people, the programme is now being embedded within the education system across the country. The plan is ultimately to establish MCR as a national model to ensure that the young people are defined by the talents and potential and never their circumstances.



Sally Magnusson
Writer and Broadcaster

Sally is one of the best-known broadcasters in Scotland, presenting for BBC Scotland and Radio 4 across all areas of current affairs, politics and religion. Sally began her journalism career at The Scotsman, before moving into television. She quickly became an established BBC face, presenting *The Daily Politics*, *Panorama* and *Songs of Praise*. She worked temporarily for the World Service Television News and eventually settled in Glasgow, presenting Breakfast News on BBC Scotland.

Away from the news Sally has presented Woman's Hour and Night Waves, and is the author of several books, including *Life of Pee: The Story of How Urine Got Everywhere*.



Laura Mair
Head of Tax Scotland, EY

Laura currently leads EY's tax practice in Scotland and has worked with EY for more than 15 years having spent significant amounts of her time in their Glasgow, London and New York offices. Laura advises UK and foreign headquartered groups on their tax affairs, with particular expertise in international tax and group reorganisations.

In addition to working for EY, Laura also has experience of in-house tax functions having spent two years with BP in London. She currently Chairs the International and Large Business Committee of ICAS.

In her spare time Laura raises money for various charities, including the EY Foundation, which raises funds to help young people find alternative routes into work and education.



Graeme Maxton
Secretary General, Club of Rome

Graeme Maxton is the Secretary General of the Club of Rome, a global network of renowned independent thinkers dedicated to addressing the challenges facing humanity. A trenchant critic of modern economic thinking, he is the co-author of *Reinventing Prosperity, Managing Economic Growth to Reduce Unemployment, Inequality and Climate Change*, (Greystone, October 2016). The book was co-written with Jorgen Randers, one of the authors of *The Limits to Growth*. The German edition, *Ein Prozent ist genug: Mit wenig Wachstum soziale Ungleichheit, Arbeitslosigkeit und Klimawandel bekämpfen* (oekom Verlag) was the No1 best-selling economics book on Amazon.de. Graeme is also the sole author of *The End of Progress: How Modern Economics Has Failed Us* (Wiley, 2011), which was nominated for the FT's Best Book about Business Award and has been translated into Chinese, Czech, Romanian and German. It was a top-20 Spiegel best-seller.

He was previously a regional director with the Economist Group in Asia, with consultants Booz, Allen & Hamilton and in banking with Citibank and American Express.

Born in Scotland, he currently lives in Switzerland.



Jim McColl OBE
Chairman and Chief Executive, Clyde Blowers Capital

In 1992 Jim bought 29.9% of a small Scottish engineering company, Clyde Blowers plc, which had a full listing on the London Stock Exchange. Today Clyde Blowers has portfolio of 90 Companies in 30 different countries, employing 6,000 people around the world, with an annual turnover in excess of £1.4 billion and has become one of the leading European Engineering Industrial Investors.



Darren McGarvey
Author, Performing artist and Columnist

Darren McGarvey is an author, performing artist and columnist based in Glasgow. His best-selling 2017 book *Poverty Safari: Understanding the Anger of Britain's Underclass*, blended memoir, journalism and polemic to make an argument that even the left – as well as Conservatives – misunderstand the complexity of poverty as it is experienced and that many traditional ideas on both the left and right are dangerously outdated.



Kerry-Anne McKay
Vice Chair, The 2050 Climate Group

Kerry-Anne is Vice Chair of The 2050 Climate Group, a climate focused charity whose mission is to engage, educate and empower Scotland's young leaders in the low carbon transition. She has an MSc in Engineering Project Management and works as an Organisational Development Manager for Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSE). Her experience includes designing and implementing both process and organisational change across a portfolio of major electrical infrastructure and technology projects, and she spent her early career supporting development of onshore wind in Scotland.



Edward Mountain MSP
Conservative and Unionist MSP for the Highlands and Islands

Edward was elected to the Scottish Parliament in May 2016 and was elected as Convener of the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee in June 2016.

Edward joined the army in 1980 and was commissioned in 1981. His military service took him to Cyprus, Uganda, Germany, Canada, United Kingdom, Spain and Egypt. He left the army in 1992 but continued to serve as a reservist for a further six years. On leaving the army, Edward went to Sparsholt Agricultural College where he completed a diploma in Farm Management. He then went to the Royal Agricultural College and completed a degree in Rural Land Management.

In 1995 Edward joined a firm of 'chartered surveyors' and qualified as a chartered surveyor in 1997. Edward became a partner in this firm in 2000 and in 2006 become the senior partner in Inverness.

In 2007, Edward returned home to farm and runs a herd of 180 pedigree Simmentals and grows 300 acres of barley.



Rt Hon. David Mundell MP
Secretary of State for Scotland

David Mundell was appointed Secretary of State for Scotland in May 2015. He was elected as the Conservative MP for Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale in May 2005.

David attended Lockerbie Academy, before going on to study law at the University of Edinburgh and gaining a Diploma in Legal Practice. He also received an MBA from the University of Strathclyde Business School.

David was elected to the Scottish Parliament in 1999 and 2003 as a list MSP for the South of Scotland. After being elected as MP for Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale in 2005, he was made Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland and a member of David Cameron's Shadow Cabinet.

David worked as a solicitor before joining BT as Group Legal Advisor for Scotland in 1991. He became BT Scotland's head of national affairs, remaining with BT until becoming an MSP.

He was a councillor in Annandale and Eskdale from 1984 to 1986 and served on Dumfries and Galloway council for another year until 1987, while a student. He is a member of the Law Society and Writers to the Signet.



Dr Gillian Murray
Deputy Principal (Enterprise and Business) at Heriot-Watt University

Dr Gillian Murray was appointed to the position in July 2016 and joined Heriot-Watt University in October 2016. Gillian leads on the development and implementation of the University's Enterprise & Business Engagement Strategy, to deliver the strategic intent and ambitions of the University in translating and mobilising the University's intellectual and capital assets to effect greater impact regionally, nationally and globally. The new position is in support of the University's strategic vision of being a world-leading institution developing entrepreneurial students and staff who addressing global challenges to drive transformational social and economic benefits.

Gillian is passionate about driving global innovation and skills development, using new digital technology to break down collaboration barriers and facilitate co-invention.



Dame Susan Rice DBE
SCDI President, Head of the Scottish Fiscal Commission

SCDI's current President is Dame Susan Rice DBE.

As the first woman to head a UK clearing bank in 2000, Dame Susan became was appointed Chief Executive, then Chairman, of Lloyds TSB Scotland, and subsequently Managing Director of Lloyds Banking Group Scotland. She was the first woman to be appointed President of SCDI in 2012. In June 2014, she became the first Chair of Scotland's new Fiscal Commission, and is ushering it onto full statutory basis as the official, central and independent economic and fiscal forecaster for Scotland. Before that, she was a member of the First Minister's Council of Economic Advisors.

She is Senior Independent Director of J Sainsbury's group, and director of C Hoare & Co and the North American Income Trust. Previously a director of the Bank of England, she was also for eleven years a non-executive director of SSE plc, the UK's largest producer of power from renewable sources. As Chair of the 2020 Climate Group, she has led a business-focussed collaboration on carbon reduction and a sustainable Scottish economy.

Dame Susan has helped develop numerous social finance models in the US and the UK. She is also founding Chair of the Chartered Banker: Professional Standards Board which has created, for the first time, professional standards for individual bankers throughout the UK. Alongside that, she is also a director of the Banking Standards Board, focused on standards for financial institutions.

Reflecting her efforts to ensure a vibrant cultural base in the country, she chairs the Patrons' Governors of Scotland's National Galleries and was a long-term chair of the Edinburgh International Book Festival and Edinburgh's Festivals Forum.

Alongside a number of honorary degrees, Dame Susan is a Regent of the Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh and a Fellow of the RSA, the Chartered Banker Institute and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.



Richard Rollison
Deputy Director, Innovation, Industries and Investment, Scottish Government

Richard Rollison has been Deputy Director of Innovation, Industries and Investment with the Scottish Government since October 2016 leading policy and a team of around 40 to support business and industry, boost innovation and create an entrepreneurial culture. Prior to becoming Deputy Director, Richard headed up the Government's International Trade and Investment Policy Team. He has held a number of Scottish Government posts since 2003 ranging from strategy and foresight work to regeneration to reforming the police service. Before working for the Scottish Government Richard held a variety of posts in local government.

Richard is a graduate of Edinburgh and Glasgow universities.



Simone Rossi
Chief Executive Officer, EDF Energy

Simone Rossi is the Chief Executive Officer of EDF Energy and a member of the Executive Committee of EDF Group. He has been CEO since 1 November 2017. Simone was the EDF Group Senior Executive Vice President in charge of the International Division from 2015 to 2017, and Chief Financial Officer at EDF Energy from April 2011. He started his career in 1993 in the Treasury Department of De Agostini in Novara (Italy), moved to Management Consulting with KPMG Corporate Finance and from 1996 in McKinsey & Co, Milan (Italy), where he served various Financial Institutions, Industrial and Energy clients. In 2004 he joined Edison SpA in Milan (Italy) as Head of Strategy, where he subsequently covered the responsibility of Director of Planning, Control and IT.

In November 2009 he moved to Constellation Energy Nuclear Group in Baltimore (USA) as Chief Financial Officer. Simone Rossi has a Degree in Business Administration from Bocconi University, Milan, and a Degree in Clarinet from Istituto Puccini, Gallarate (Italy).



Jim Savage
Chief Executive, Aberdeenshire Council

Jim started his career as a Geography teacher in Liverpool before moving on to work in Higher Education and then management consultancy, operating across a range of sectors including defence and utilities.

His career in local government spans over a decade and his previous roles include Deputy Corporate Director for Human Resources at Staffordshire County Council, before moving to Cumbria County Council in 2007 as Corporate Director Human Resources. He held a number of Director roles in Cumbria, culminating in the post of Corporate Director – Environment & Community Services from 2013. During his time at Cumbria, Jim was responsible for a range of services including HR, Procurement, ICT, Trading Standards, Planning, Economic Development, Waste, Community Services, and Highways and Transport. In November 2014, Jim was appointed to the position of Chief Executive with Aberdeenshire Council and took up post in February 2015.

Jim is married to wife Sue and they live in Deeside.



Nora Senior CBE
Chair, Scottish Government's Strategic Board for Enterprise and Skills

Nora Senior was appointed as Chair of the Scottish Government's Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board in August 2017. A specialist in corporate communications, she has more than 25 years' experience working international blue chip and FTSE100 clients across a wide range of sectors, including infrastructure, transport, energy, property, finance, healthcare, technology and FMCG.

Her professional skills include strategic counsel, reputation management, high level media relations, integrated marketing and crisis management. She is currently Chair, UK Regions & Ireland for global public relations firm Weber Shandwick.

In May 2017, she stepped down as Chair of Scottish Chambers of Commerce after serving a four-year term. She is also a former President of the British Chambers of Commerce.



Alastair Sim
Director, Universities Scotland

Alastair Sim took up office as the Director of Universities Scotland on 01 July 2009. Universities Scotland is the representative body of Scotland's 19 higher education institutions. Universities Scotland develops policy on behalf of the university sector and campaigns publicly on higher education issues.

Previously, Alastair was a Civil Servant with the Scottish Office and later the Scottish Government between 1989 – 2009. He served in a number of departments, including a time as Private Secretary to Minister for Agriculture and the Environment. Alastair developed policy and legislation on constitutional reform and protection of the natural heritage and was seconded to the European Commission.

During his career in the Senior Civil Service he was Head of Division, Environment and Rural Affairs; and was seconded to the post of Director of Planning, University of Glasgow; and latterly held the post of Director of Policy and Strategy, Scottish Court Service.

Alastair is a member of various different committees including: Cross-Party Group (CPG) on Scotland's Universities and Colleges; and the Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI) Executive Committee.



Grahame Smith
General Secretary, STUC

Grahame Smith was appointed General Secretary of the Scottish TUC in November 2006.

He is a Graduate of Strathclyde University, where he obtained an Honours Degree in Economics and Industrial Relations.

He serves on a number of Boards/Bodies in the field of economic development and skills. He is a Non-Executive Director of Skills Development Scotland; a member of the Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board; a Non-Executive Director of Investors In People Community Interest Company; Chairperson of Scotland Europa; a member of the UK Government's MER Oil and Gas Forum and the Scottish Oil and Gas Industry Leadership Group.

He serves on the Fair Work Convention and, having been a member of the Wood Commission on Developing Scotland's Young Workforce, is actively involved in the implementation of the Commission's recommendations through his membership of the DYW National Group.

In November 2015 Grahame received an honorary degree of Doctor of the University from the University of Strathclyde in recognition of his achievements in the field of industrial relations, economic policy and his work in knowledge exchange.

Following the 2016 EU Referendum, Grahame was appointed by the First Minister to serve on the Standing Council on Europe which is advising the Scottish Government on the Brexit and maintaining Scotland's relationship with the EU.



Susan Stewart
Director, The Open University in Scotland

Susan took up the post of Director of The Open University in Scotland in December 2015. Raised in Renfrew, Susan is a philosophy graduate of St Andrews University and Smith College, Massachusetts. Susan started her career in political journalism before moving into strategic communications and public affairs. She has held senior roles in higher education and government and was Scotland's first diplomat to the United States, based in the British Embassy in DC from 2001-05. She is a passionate advocate of widening access to higher education and was chair of the Universities Scotland articulation working group, responding to the recommendations of the Commission on Widening Access. Susan is committed to ensuring that the Open University's aim of promoting social justice through access to knowledge remains relevant today.

Susan is currently a member of the Scottish Government's Access Delivery Group, the Scottish Funding Council's Access and Inclusion Committee and the NHS Education for Scotland Board.



Nicola Sturgeon MSP
First Minister of Scotland

Nicola Sturgeon became Leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP) on November 14, 2014 and was sworn in as First Minister of Scotland on November 20, 2014.

Born in Irvine in 1970 and educated at Greenwood Academy, she studied law at the University of Glasgow where she graduated with LLB (Hons) and Diploma in Legal Practice. Before entering the Scottish Parliament as a regional MSP for Glasgow in 1999 she worked as a solicitor in the Drumchapel Law and Money Advice Centre in Glasgow.

She is currently MSP for Glasgow Southside having been, before boundary changes, MSP for Govan between 2007 and 2011. In government she served as Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing between May 2007 and September 2012 and then Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities with responsibility for government strategy and the constitution until November 2014. Throughout this period she also served as Deputy First Minister of Scotland.



Steve Wells
Global Futurist and Chief Operating Officer of Fast Future

Steve is a global futurist and keynote speaker. He advises global corporations on the transformative potential of disruptive technologies and how organisations can leverage them to create distinctive identities in a fast changing world and drive exponential growth and improvement. He has a particular focus on the new models of leadership, collaboration, and innovation required to sustain and differentiate brands in a rapidly changing reality.

As COO of Fast Future Publishing Steve is working on delivering a series of multi-contributor books exploring the emerging future. He is a co-editor and a contributing author for *The Future of Business*, the recently published *Beyond Genuine Stupidity – Ensuring AI Serves Humanity*, and *The Future Reinvented – Reimagining Life, Society, and Business*. He is also working on two forthcoming books - *Unleashing Human Potential – The Future of AI in Business*, and *50:50 – Scenarios for the Next 50 Years*.