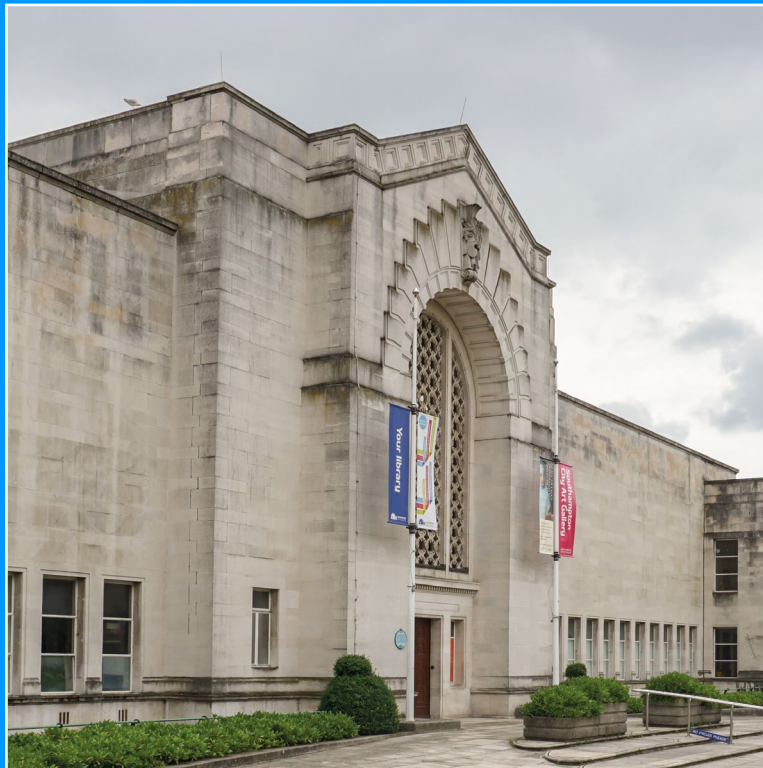




i-PLACE 26

Programme of events



"Liveable and lovable places"
Southampton, 20-22 October

i-PLACE is the UK's national platform for place innovation.

i-PLACE was created by the Key Cities Innovation Network, a civic partnership of 22 cities and 12 universities in England and Wales.

secretariat@keycitiesinnovation.org
www.i-place.uk



Programme

Tuesday 20 October

11.30 am – 1.00 pm
Lecture Theatre 1, Sir James Matthews Building
Culture works
Extended roundtable discussion
In partnership with Arts Council England

2.00 – 5.00 pm
Seminar Room 2063-2065, Sir James Matthews Building
The agency of citizens
Extended roundtable discussion
In partnership with the Academy of Social Sciences

6.00 – 7.30 pm
Southampton City Art Gallery
Civic reception
Hosted by Southampton City Council

Wednesday 21 October

9.30 am – 5.00 pm
Studio 2, Mayflower Studios
Liveable and lovable places
Innovation in Action Conference

Thursday 22 October

8.30 – 9.30 am
Centenary Building, University of Southampton
Breakfast briefing
A briefing on funding available from diverse sources for place-based collaborations on resilience

10.00 am – 1.00 pm
Centenary Building, University of Southampton
The Key Cities symposium: resilient places
A symposium exploring climate, heritage and organisational resilience in our places and communities
In partnership with the National Lottery Heritage Fund

Key Cities is a diverse, national network that represents urban living in the UK and has the range, expertise and agility to deliver innovative solutions for the challenges we face. The network's APPG, events and research initiatives help focus the national policy agenda on cities.

secretariat@keycities.uk
www.keycities.uk



i-PLACE 26, Session 1
Tuesday 20 October
11.30 am – 1.00 pm

Lecture Theatre 1,
Sir James Matthews Building
University of Southampton
City Centre Campus,
157-187 Above Bar Street,
Southampton, SO14 7FQ

In partnership with



Culture works

Culture, heritage and the creative industries are central to how places think about themselves.

They support skills, jobs and growth. They affect wellbeing, identity and pride.

When embedded in place strategy, they connect economic and social priorities, bring partners and communities together, and unlock opportunities across traditional policy boundaries.

Culture and creativity can also link places across geographic, political and institutional divides.

Culture works looks at arts, culture and the creative industries not as add-ons to wider place strategy, but as catalysts for sustainable transformation.

Opening provocation: **Professor Katy Shaw**, Director of the AHRC Creative Communities programme and author of *The Case for Culture*.

Panel discussion chaired by **Carolyn Abel**, Director of Culture, Destination and Economic Development at Southampton City Council.

Panel:

Phil Gibby, Area Director South West, Arts Council England
Dr Louise Govier, Co-Chief Executive, Artswork, Southampton
Alison Gwynn, Chief Executive, North-East Screen, Sunderland
Darren Grice, Director of Culture & Place Partnerships, Salford City Council
Ed Matthews-Gentle, Programme Leader, Creative Lancashire
Cllr Paul Roper, Cabinet Member for Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development, Bath & North East Somerset Council

The agency of citizens

Place is where we make our lives; it's pride, belonging and emotional attachment.

Devolution is about bringing decisions closer to where we live so we can make better choices.

Good growth recognises that for the country to thrive, we must improve prospects and productivity everywhere.

This extended roundtable explores what it means for identity, governance and the economy if we truly make place the driving force of government policy.

Provocations:

Devolution – The Rt Hon. Professor John Denham FAcSS, Director of the Centre for English Identity and Politics at the University of Southampton

Pride in Place – Professor Katharine Willis, Co-Director of the Centre for Place at the University of Plymouth and co-author of *Whose neighbourhood?*

Good growth in every postcode – Cllr Matthew Brown, Leader of Preston City Council and Key Cities Portfolio Lead on Inclusive Economy

Panel discussion chaired by **Dr Ed Bridges**, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Academy of Social Sciences.

Panel:

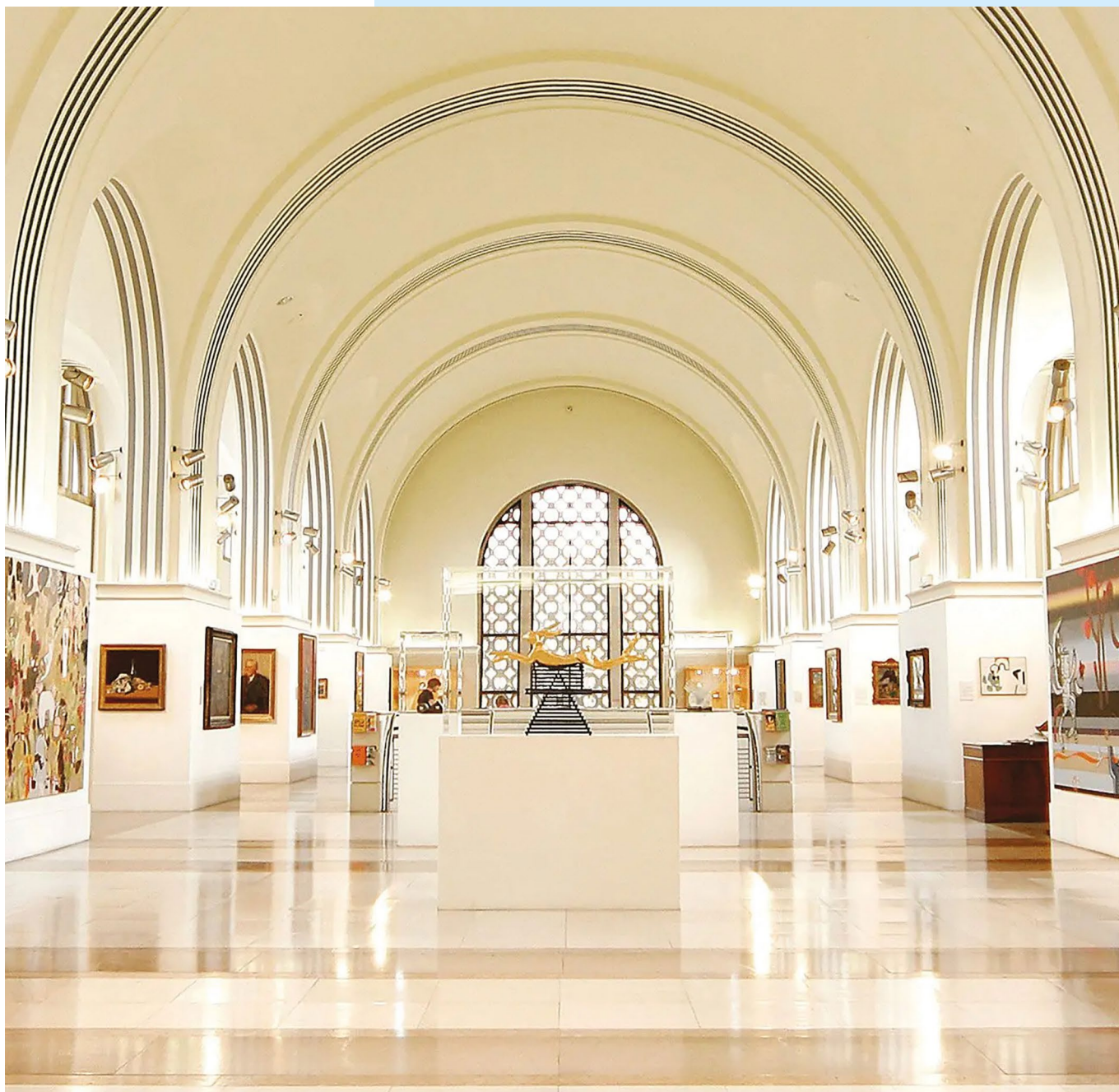
The provocateurs plus
Jude Barber, Executive Director and Architect, Collective Architecture
Cllr Jackie Dad, Deputy Leader, Hull City Council
David Johnson, Director of National Partnerships and Place, Arts Council England
Dr Harriet Parry, Think Otherwise

i-PLACE 26, Session 2
Tuesday 20 October
2.00 – 5.00 pm

Seminar Room 2063-2065,
Sir James Matthews Building
University of Southampton
City Centre Campus,
157-187 Above Bar Street,
Southampton, SO14 7FQ

In partnership with

ACADEMY
of SOCIAL
SCIENCES



Civic reception

A gathering of local civic leaders with representatives from member cities and universities, partner organisations and others taking part in the i-PLACE 26 events.

Southampton's active participation in Key Cities reflects the city's deep-rooted commitment to communities and civic collaboration — a commitment that's matched both by its parliamentary representatives and the University of Southampton in their active roles in the Key Cities APPG and Innovation Network respectively.

Innovation is central to Southampton's Renaissance Vision launched in 2025, which sets out to transform the city centre, focusing on making Southampton a leading destination for investment, culture, innovation and resilience.

Speakers:

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Southampton
Cllr Pat Evely

Professor Charlie Jeffery CBE
Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Southampton

Taryn Nixon OBE
Trustee, National Lottery Heritage Fund

Darren Henley CBE
Chief Executive, Arts Council England

Jillian Kay
Chief Executive, Southampton City Council

i-PLACE 26
Tuesday 20 October
6.00 – 7.30 pm

Southampton City Art Gallery
Civic Centre, Commercial Rd,
Southampton SO14 7LY

Hosted by



i-PLACE 26, Session 3
Wednesday 21 October
9.30 am – 5.00 pm

Studio 2, Mayflower Studios,
142–144 Above Bar St,
Southampton SO14 7DU



Liveable and lovable places

Presentations of real-world projects demonstrating place innovation around the country, along with keynotes from leading stakeholders and thought leaders.

Professor Jane Falkingham
CBE FAcSS (Chair)— *Welcome*

Keynote:
Cllr Sarah Bogle, Leader,
Southampton City Council
*Southampton – city of heritage
and innovation*

**Dr Shelley Kotze and Sophie
Burton**

*Beyond replication: Realist-
informed evaluation and
learning across Sport
England’s investment in
liveable, lovable and active
places*

James Bogue

*From design to community
leadership: what Exeter
is learning about physical
activity, belonging and
healthier places*

**Dr Anisa Kabir Abdulfatah,
Suhana Pallikkal**

*Small firms, uneven futures:
AI exposure and economic
resilience in Salford*

Professor Louise Bright
*The Newport Commitment:
building a place-based
partnership to align youth
aspiration with opportunity*

Hannah Harris

*Culture as infrastructure: How
to reposition creative projects
as catalysts for systems
change*

The Place Pod:

Darren Henley CBE, Chief
Executive of Arts Council
England, in conversation with
Kasper de Graaf

Dr Natasha Kidd

*Hardwiring the hologram:
moving from mapping to
wiring, design to activation,
from canvas to petri dish*

Luke Bates, Oliver Deed

*Beyond the platform: Railway
stations as civic catalysts for
liveable and lovable UK places*

DISCUSSION

1.00 – 2.00 pm Lunch

Keynote:
Baroness Jo Valentine,
Co-Director of Place, Business
in the Community

Selina Papa, Paul Cowell
*Heritage places in Medway:
People, places, stories – the
thread that binds*

Gary Wilburn
*Beyond the platform:
Regenerative railway
infrastructure as a catalyst for
positive impact*

Dr Mirian Calvo
*From lived experience to
planning policy: placemaking
with young adults
engagement programme*

Keynote:
Ben Derbyshire, Chair of HTA
Design and former President
of RIBA
Growth in every postcode

Dr Kamran Mahroof
*From digital transformation
to place transformation:
harnessing emerging
technologies for sustainable
and resilient regional
development*

Hazel Dalgard, UKRI
*The New European Bauhaus –
opportunities for place-based
collaboration*

Dr Paula Wood
*Belonging in place:
understanding place-based
identity through children’s
cultural engagement*

DISCUSSION



i-PLACE 26: Session 4
Thursday 22 October
8.30 – 9.30 am

Room 6009, Centenary Building,
University of Southampton
Highfield Campus, University Rd,
Southampton SO17 1BJ



Breakfast briefing

Money isn't everything, but funding is undeniably a key factor in unlocking place innovation, particularly when developing and proving new approaches in places outside the charmed circle.

Our breakfast briefing this year brings together experts from UKRI, Arts Council England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund to explore what funding opportunities are available for resilience in areas from climate to heritage and communities.

The session is chaired by **Professor Sarah Kemp**, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Engagement at Lancaster University

Contributing experts:

Katherine Warren, Head of Histories, Culture and Heritage at UKRI-Arts & Humanities Research Council

Oluwaseun Soyemi, Senior Manager, Social Impact Investment, National Lottery Heritage Fund

Adam Gent, Senior Relationship Manager South West, Arts Council England

Resilient places

The Key Cities Symposium

The first Key Cities Symposium explores the centrality of resilience in keeping our places liveable and lovable. We look at climate adaptation, resilient culture and heritage, and the role of large organisations and anchor institutions in securing the sustainability of our lived experience.

Provocations:

Professor Sheela Agarwal, Co-Director of the Centre for Coastal Communities at the University of Plymouth: *Building pathways to climate resilience*

Paul Bristow, Director of Policy and External Relations, National Lottery Heritage Fund: *Preserving heritage is key to resilience*

Professor AbuBakr Bahaj, University of Southampton and Southampton City Council: *Sustainability starts at home*

Panel discussion chaired by **Cllr Vince Maple**,
Leader of Medway Council and Chair of Key Cities

Panel:

The provocateurs plus

James Bridge, Secretary-General and CEO, UNESCO UK

Kath Wynne-Hague, Head of Culture, Place and City Centre, Hull City Council

Cllr Martin Bottoms, Cabinet Member for Morecambe Regeneration and Local Economy, Lancaster City Council

Professor Gina Yannitell Reinhardt, Professor of Government at the University of Essex and Principal Investigator of the UKRI-funded ARISE programme

i-PLACE 26: Session 5
Thursday 22 October
10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Room 6009, Centenary Building,
University of Southampton
Highfield Campus, University Rd,
Southampton SO17 1BJ

In partnership with



Our Speakers



Dr Anisa Kabir Abdulfatah

Anisa is a researcher at the University of Salford’s Centre for Sustainable Innovation, specialising in digital transformation, SME competitiveness and social inclusion. With experience spanning the UK and Sub-Saharan Africa, her work connects research, policy and communities to build more inclusive and sustainable innovation ecosystems.



Jude Barber

Jude is Executive Director of Collective Architecture, co-leading the studio with a focus on strategic urbanism and design excellence. Her collaborative approach has shaped major projects including the City Observatory, Water Row Masterplan and Granton Waterfront Vision, influencing residential, cultural and civic design across Scotland.



Luke Bates

Luke is a mobility, placemaking and urban innovation specialist with experience across the UK and Europe. Based in Barcelona, he works with FACTUAL Consulting and has managed Living Labs through RAIL4CITIES, exploring how station-area strategies can respond to different communities, local contexts and governance environments.



Carolyn Abel

Carolyn is Director of Culture, Destination and Economic Development at Southampton City Council, working with partners to embed culture and creativity in thriving, joyful places. Her career spans local government, culture and tourism across England, and she is supporting the cultural, creative and visitor economies across Hampshire and Solent.



Prof. Sheela Agarwal

Sheela is Professor at Plymouth Business School and Co-Director of the Centre for Coastal Communities. Her research explores regional economic development, coastal and rural regeneration, inequality and climate resilience. She has led major research programmes and contributed extensively to UK policy and parliamentary debates on coastal communities.

James Bogue

James is Place Partnership Manager at Exeter City Council, with over 20 years’ experience in community physical activity, health and wellbeing. He established the Exeter and Cranbrook Place Partnership through Sport England funding and is passionate about placemaking and building stronger, healthier communities.



Cllr Sarah Bogle

Sarah is Leader of Southampton City Council, with a portfolio spanning growth, prosperity and culture. A councillor since 2006, her career spans industry, local government and higher education, including supporting the real-world impact of social sciences research. She is a strong advocate for culture and the arts.



Prof. AbuBakr Bahaj

’Bakr is Professor of Sustainable Energy at the University of Southampton, leading its Energy and Climate Change Division, Sustainable Energy Research Group and institutional Sustainability Strategy. A Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, he is also Chief Scientific Adviser to Southampton City Council.





Cllr Martin Bottoms

Martin is Lancaster City Council's Cabinet Member for Morecambe Regeneration and Local Economy, and represents Bare Ward on city and town councils. He champions regeneration, investment and local business, with responsibilities spanning coastal engineering, arts and culture, and green skills, alongside extensive community involvement.



James Ömer Bridge

James is Secretary-General of the UK National Commission for UNESCO, representing the UK at UNESCO and across its global network of National Commissions. He leads UK UNESCO diplomatic and strategic work, connecting local and global networks of UNESCO sites and designations, with a focus on growth and Pride in Place.



Paul Bristow

Paul is Director of Policy and External Relations at the National Lottery Heritage Fund, leading policy and external engagement across the UK. His work includes the Heritage Places initiative, supporting heritage-led investment in communities and regeneration, and he serves on the AHRC Creative Communities Advisory Board.



Cllr Matthew Brown

Matthew is Leader of Preston City Council and Key Cities Portfolio Lead for Inclusive Economy. A councillor since 2002 and Leader since 2018, he is a leading advocate of community wealth building and the 'Preston Model', promoting local ownership, anchor institutions and inclusive economic development.

Prof. Louise Bright

Louise is Pro Vice-Chancellor for Enterprise, Engagement and Partnerships at the University of South Wales. She leads the South Wales Civic Engagement Partnership, bringing together higher and further education institutions across the region, and contributes to national research development and regional economic growth initiatives.



Dr Mirian Calvo

Mirian is Lecturer in Participatory Architecture at Lancaster University, specialising in participatory design, placemaking and creative engagement. She leads *Placemaking with Young Adults*, exploring co-design for inclusive, sustainable and liveable places, and researches how citizens' assemblies can inform planning and build public trust.



Sophie Burton

Sophie is Head of Insight, Evaluation and Workforce at Energise Me, the Active Partnership for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. With over 25 years' experience in sport and physical activity, she champions whole-system, place-based approaches, shared learning and collaboration to support more active communities.



Dr Ed Bridges

Ed is Head of Policy & Public Affairs at the Academy of Social Sciences. His work focuses on devolution, policy and public services, and the contribution of social science to contemporary challenges. He co-leads the Academy's devolution hub and researches social science contributions to the UK's industrial strategy.



Paul Cowell

The Chief Culture Officer at Medway Council, Paul is a strategic leader with over 20 years' experience using culture, heritage, tourism and community services to support regeneration, wellbeing and economic growth. His work focuses on turning ambitious visions into practical delivery and building partnerships to create vibrant, inclusive communities.



Oliver Deed

Oliver is Co-founder / Director of ECF, specialising in engagement and communications. With experience across the UK and Australia, his work spans strategic communications, public and political relations, and community engagement, supporting major regeneration and infrastructure projects for public and private-sector clients.



Rt Hon. Prof. John Denham

John is Professorial Fellow and Director of the Centre for English Identity and Politics. A former MP and Cabinet minister, his current work explores nationhood, English identities, governance, community cohesion and England's relationship with the UK, contributing extensively to academic and public policy debate.



Cllr Jackie Dad

Jackie is Deputy Leader of Hull City Council and has represented East Hull since 2014. Her responsibilities span finance, major projects, transformation, culture, leisure and tourism, alongside housing for the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority. She champions investment, regeneration, sustainable development and inclusive prosperity.



Cllr Pat Evemy

Pat is Lord Mayor of Southampton and Honorary Admiral of the Port, and has represented Banister & Polygon since 2023. A Community Champion for Heritage, her career spans historic buildings and urban regeneration. She is passionate about local and working-class history, community diversity and engaging young people in local democracy.



Kasper de Graaf

Kasper is Director of i-PLACE and CEO of Images&Co, which provides the secretariat for the Key Cities APPG and Innovation Network. He co-authored *Whose neighbourhood?*, a study on the Pride in Place programme, and coordinates Plymouth's participation in Pathways2Resilience, the EU's flagship climate adaptation programme.



Hazel Dalgard

Hazel is the UK National Contact Point for the New European Bauhaus within Horizon Europe, supporting UK participation and collaboration. Her career spans science and innovation, European research programmes, climate and sustainability policy, renewable energy and just transition, including leading the UK Science & Innovation Network in the Nordics.



Ben Derbyshire

Ben is Chair of HTA Design LLP, specialising in housing and placemaking, and a Commissioner of Historic England. A former President of RIBA, he has published widely on housing and sustainable places, including Home Truths, drawing together insights from his long career as a housing designer.





Prof. Jane Falkingham CBE

Jane is Professor of Demography & International Social Policy and Vice President (International & Global Engagement) at the University of Southampton, and Vice-Chair of the Key Cities Innovation Network. Her research spans population change and social policy, and she has held senior leadership roles across the UK and European social science communities.



Adam Gent

Adam is Senior Relationship Manager at Arts Council England, leading place-based work and strategic partnerships. His work focuses on culture's contribution to placemaking, economic growth and communities, with particular responsibility for local authority relationships, skills and workforce, and engagement with government funding and policy.



Darren Grice

Darren is Director of Culture & Place Partnerships at Salford City Council, leading work across culture, creative industries, heritage, events, libraries, sport and placemaking. With over 25 years' experience in cultural leadership, he champions creativity as a driver of economic growth, community wellbeing and place transformation.



Alison Gwynn

Alison leads North East Screen, supporting growth of the region's screen industries and opportunities for people and businesses. With over 25 years' experience in the cultural and creative sectors, she champions sustainable creative-industry growth and has helped secure significant investment and economic impact for North East England.

Louise Govier

Louise is Co-Chief Executive of Artswork, leading its work to achieve long-term change through creativity. With a background in art history, museums and cultural participation, she has held leadership roles at the National Gallery and National Trust and is passionate about co-creation and enabling young people to shape solutions.



Phil Gibby

Phil is Arts Council England's Area Director for the South West. Previously at Welsh National Opera, Arts & Business and Bristol Old Vic, his career spans cultural leadership, development and communications. A former journalist, he has also chaired and served as trustee of cultural, charitable and educational organisations.



Darren Henley CBE

Darren is Chief Executive of Arts Council England, with experience spanning arts, media, education, charity and government. Formerly Managing Director of Classic FM, he has advised government on cultural education and writes widely on culture's contribution to happier lives, stronger communities and public policy.

Hannah Harris

Hannah is CEO of Plymouth Culture, leading work to strengthen the city's cultural and creative sector. She authored Plymouth's 10-year Culture Plan, commissioned its Creative Industries Plan and secured investment through the *Sea for Yourself* Place Partnership Programme, championing a vibrant, visible and accessible cultural sector.





Prof. Charlie Jeffery CBE

Charlie is Vice-Chancellor of the University of Southampton and Professor of Politics. Previously Vice-Chancellor of the University of York, he is a passionate advocate for the role of universities in driving economic growth, widening access to education and strengthening their contribution to places and communities.



Dr Natasha Kidd

Natasha is Director of Creative Engagement and Reader in Art Practice and Pedagogy at Bath Spa University, leading its Creative Engagement Unit. An artist, researcher and academic leader, her work connects creative practice, education and civic engagement with a focus on participation and the social and economic impact of culture.



Dr Shelley Kotze

Shelley is a Research Fellow at Hartpury University, working with Sport England's National Evaluation and Learning Partnership. Her research explores place-based and whole-systems approaches to evaluation, particularly how communities and local partners can shape evaluation and understand what works, for whom and in what circumstances.



Prof. Sarah Kemp

Sarah is Pro Vice-Chancellor for Engagement at Lancaster University, leading its civic and knowledge exchange agendas. She chairs the Morecambe Bay Curriculum Partnership and North West Cyber Corridor, and is a Trustee of Eden Project, with extensive experience connecting universities, communities, business and place.



David Johnson

David is Director, National Partnerships and Place at Arts Council England. His career spans arts, heritage and local government, with a focus on partnerships, fundraising, resilience and place-based cultural development. Previously at Cause4 and the Albany, he has also held multiple trustee and non-executive director roles.



Cllr Vince Maple

Vince is Leader of Medway Council, Chair of Key Cities and Chair of Labour in Local and Regional Government. A Medway councillor since 2007, his career spans local and national government, trade unions and European local government, with a focus on inclusive growth, public services and communities.



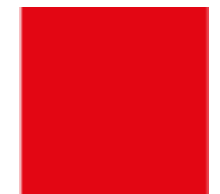
Dr Kamran Mahroof

Kamran is Associate Professor at the University of Bradford's School of Management, specialising in applied AI and disruptive technologies. His research explores technology for good, from wildfire response to sustainable farming and financial resilience. He leads Bradford's contribution to 6G-VERSUS, a major Horizon Europe project.



Jillian Kay

Jillian is Chief Executive of Southampton City Council, leading delivery of the Council's corporate plan and city missions for a healthier, safer, greener, growing and more equal Southampton. Previously at Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, she has also held senior roles in national government.





Ed Matthews-Gentle

Ed is Programme Leader for Creative Lancashire and strategic lead for Culture & Creative Industries at Lancashire County Council. With over 20 years' experience developing creative organisations, he leads major cultural initiatives and collaborations and is overseeing the development of Lancashire's bid to host UK City of Culture.



Taryn Nixon OBE

Taryn is a Trustee of the National Lottery Heritage Fund and chairs its Committee for England, London & South. An archaeologist and heritage management adviser, she formerly led Museum of London Archaeology and has written widely on heritage's contribution to regeneration, economic growth and social cohesion.



Dr Harriet Parry

Harriet is a cultural practitioner, design historian and researcher exploring how people experience heritage and place. Her innovative approach uses scenography to uncover complex relationships with cultural spaces, revealing untold stories and how personal histories shape identity, belonging and communities, with implications for socially responsive placemaking.

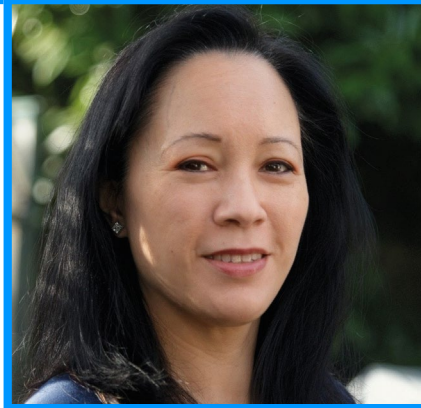


Prof. Gina Reinhardt

Gina Yannitell Reinhardt is Professor of Government at the University of Essex and leads the UKRI-funded ARISE Initiative across 16 coastal communities. Her research explores decision-making under uncertainty and how public investment can strengthen resilience, mitigate disasters and inform approaches to coastal resilience.

Selina Papa

Selina is Head of Engagement for England, London & South at the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Her work focuses on widening access to heritage and supporting communities to celebrate and shape their places, including through strategic investment that strengthens local identity, pride and regeneration.



Suhana Pallikkal

Suhana is a technology analyst and applied researcher at the University of Salford, specialising in data analysis, AI and digital transformation. Her work explores technology adoption, digital skills and innovation, using quantitative and computational methods to understand how technology can strengthen business capability, productivity and growth.



Prof. Katy Shaw

Katy is Director of the UKRI/AHRC Creative Communities programme and Professor of Writing and Publishing. Her work explores devolution and culture, cultural policy and inclusion in the creative industries, with particular interest in culture-led innovation, partnership working and the role of universities in place.



Cllr Paul Roper

Paul is Cabinet Member for Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development at Bath & North East Somerset Council, with responsibilities spanning business and skills, regeneration, tourism and heritage. A longstanding Bath resident, he is also a Bath BID board member and trustee of Bath Mozartfest.



Oluwaseun Soyemi

Seun is Senior Manager, Social Impact Investment at the National Lottery Heritage Fund, with experience spanning heritage, regeneration and place-based investment. His work explores innovative approaches to financing heritage and strengthening organisational resilience, including partnerships that help organisations and communities achieve sustainable, long-term impact.



Prof. Katharine Willis

Katharine is Co-Director of the Centre for Place at the University of Plymouth and co-author of *Whose neighbourhood?* Her research explores relationships between people, communities and place, with particular expertise in inclusive placemaking, digital technologies and how communities can play a greater role in shaping places.



Dr Paula Wood

Paula is a Research Associate in Civic Mission at Wrexham University and works with the Public Map platform. Her research explores social mobility, educational inequality and how place shapes the life chances of children and young people, with a strong focus on equity and community-engaged research.



Gary Wilburn

Gary is Managing Director of EP Architects and a qualified Building Physicist with 40 years’ experience in commercial design. His work champions fabric-first approaches and reducing energy use at source. He also chairs natural capital group Green Halo and is a former Chair of the AECB.



Katherine Warren

Katherine is Head of Histories, Cultures and Heritage at the Arts and Humanities Research Council, overseeing research across humanities, culture, heritage and place. She has helped develop a major Horizon Europe partnership on Resilient Cultural Heritage, addressing cultural heritage and climate change through research, policy and collaboration.



Baroness Jo Valentine

Jo is Co-Director of Place at Business in the Community and a Crossbench member of the House of Lords. Her career spans business, regeneration and infrastructure, including leading London First. Her work at BITC focuses on mobilising business to support long-term, transformational change in places and communities.

Kath Wynne-Hague

Kath leads culture, heritage, tourism, events and placemaking in Hull, alongside Hull Culture & Leisure. With a career spanning culture, local government, health, education and community development, she brings together people, organisations and ideas to deliver ambitious, inclusive change that strengthens communities and improves life chances.



The Key Cities Innovation Network

Strategic innovation partners



i-place.uk