

Biographies and Sponsors

Presenters and Speakers



Sue Ritchie

I am a Director of a specialist community engagement organisation which is committed to greater involvement in public decision making, and building social capital. My public sector career before this role spanned university (active citizenship), local government (Tower Hamlets), central government (Home Office). I managed one of the largest attempts at mainstreaming PB in the UK (£2.4m), and have seen genuine success in mobilising the community in a more sustainable way through some of the small scale approaches (£20 – 30k) which I have supported across the country, and within various 'themes' (health, planning, policing, youth services etc).

Keen to see PB develop in its original format by putting the community right at the heart of the tough decision making, I have led an Open Government Partnership manifesto proposal which asks the cabinet office to test the idea of allocating 0.25-1% of public budgets to a participatory budgeting process. The cabinet office will decide on this in the next few months. My experience of delivering PB work is extensive, covering various themes and in a wide variety of settings (from using the Community Infrastructure Levy, to commissioning youth services, and mental health, to tackling Organised Crime). More of my work can be found at www.mutualgain.org



Giovanni Allegretti

Giovanni Allegretti is an architect, planner and senior researcher at the Centre for Social Studies of the Coimbra University, Portugal. He is among the directors of the Ph.D "Democracy in the XXI century" and he coordinates the "PEOPLE's Observatory: Participation, Innovation and Local Powers". Expert of the European Commission for the URBACT Programme, he has worked on Participatory Budgets and Interactive Planning since 1998.

As a consultant and trainer of participatory processes, Giovanni was invited to hold professional courses by several Local Authorities (in country such Italy, France, Spain, Greece, Sweden, Portugal, Senegal Reunion Island), Universities and NGO's (in Morocco, Indonesia and India), and International Institutions (such as two courses on PB organised by the World Bank in South Africa and Senegal).

Since January 2008 Giovanni has coordinated the scientific training of the EQUAL-funded project "Participatory Budgeting in Portugal" which trained more than 600 local authorities and municipal technicians in Portugal on Participatory Budgets. At present he is the global coordinator of the international project "EMPATIA. Enabling Multichannel PArticipation Through ICT Adaptations"(2015-2017), funded by Horizon 2020. For the period 2014-2019, he has been elected by the Parliament of Tuscany Region as co-chair of the Independent Authority for the Guarantee and Promotion of Participation. More about Giovanni at http://www.ces.uc.pt/investigadores/cv/giovanni_allegretti



Alex Neil MSP

Alex Neil, MSP for Airdrie and Shotts, was born in Patna, Ayrshire in 1951. He attended Dundee University, where he graduated with a degree in economics. After graduating, he became the senior researcher for the Labour Party in Scotland, until 1976 when he left Labour to help form the Scottish Labour Party. After the 1979 general election he worked in America before returning to Scotland and forming his own economic consultancy business. In 1985 he joined the SNP and stood as their candidate in the 1989 Glasgow Central by-election.

After election to the Scottish Parliament in 1999 he became firstly SNP spokesperson for social justice before chairing the Parliament's Enterprise and Lifelong Learning Committee from 2000-2003 and again 2004 till 2007. From 2007 Alex was vice-Convenor of the European and External Relations Committee and member of the Finance Committee. He was also co-Convenor of the Cross-Party Group on the Scottish Economy and on the Council of Europe's Local and Regional Authorities Association. In February 2009 he became the Scottish Government Minister for Housing and Communities. In May 2011, Alex was appointed Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure and Capital Investment. In Sept' 2012 he became Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing. He was appointed as Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights in Nov' 2014.

More at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/msps/currentmsps/Alex-Neil-MSP.aspx>



Kathleen Glazik

Kathleen Glazik is a policy manager in the Scottish Government and has been working in the Community Empowerment Team in Edinburgh since August 2013. Kathleen is policy lead for participatory budgeting, community councils and the national standards for community engagement. For the last two years, Kathleen has also worked with colleagues on the new Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Previously Kathleen worked in Drugs Policy and before she moved to Scotland six years ago, worked in the civil service in London. Kathleen is married and has three children.



Alan Budge

I worked as a Neighbourhood Partnership Manager for Bradford Vision, the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and played a key role in the development of the LSP's pioneering participatory grant-making programme, responsible for the allocation of over £1m of Neighbourhood Renewal funds.

Since then I regularly worked as a leading associate for the PB Unit, advising a wide range of local authorities on running PB programmes, as well as speaking at conferences and delivering PB training workshops for the Police, Housing Associations and Town and Parish councils. I regularly advise a wide range of local authorities on running PB programmes, as well as speaking at conferences and delivering PB training.



Graham Smith

Prof Graham Smith is Professor of Politics at the Centre for the Study of Democracy at the University of Westminster. He is author of numerous articles and academic research papers and the influential book: *Democratic Innovations: Designing Institutions for Citizen Participation* (Cambridge University Press, 2009).

Previously Professor of Politics and Head of Department at the University of Southampton, Graham from was a Research Fellow at the University of Strathclyde, a Fernand Braudel Senior Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence; and Senior Visiting Scholar on the Democracy Program at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School. He is on the executive committee of Participedia, an online global knowledge repository of information on participatory governance and an international co-investigator of the Spanish 'Cherrypicking' project, that is analysing the fate of proposals from participatory processes. For more on Graham Smith see <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/our-people/directorysmith-graham>

Some of our workshop hosts, facilitators and conference organisers



Alistair Stoddart

Alistair is the Scotland Network Manager for the Democratic Society. He is responsible for Demsoc's Scottish projects including: encouraging Collaborative Government in Scotland; running engagement processes for the Commission on Local Tax Reform and the Scottish Government's Fairer Scotland Programme. He is also a member of the Scottish Government's PB Working Group, which oversees PB activity in Scotland. He has been exploring and testing digital tools for PB in Scotland and beyond. His interests lie in participative democracy and the impact of digital tools on democratic engagement. He has previously acted as research assistant to Prof Stephen Coleman working on projects relating to political communication at the University of Leeds.



Caroline Latta

Caroline is a highly experienced senior NHS communications, engagement and marketing professional, with over 20 years' experience across the private and public sectors. As part of the NECS comms and engagement service, Caroline is also responsible for a team that delivers core communications and engagement services to CCGs across Northumberland, Tyne and Wear. Caroline has developed the use of participatory budgeting in commissioning as part of engagement programmes including 'How would you spend the mental health pound?' in Newcastle and Gateshead and 'How would you spend the urgent care pound?' in North Tyneside. She is delighted to share her learning with the PB network conference.



Andrew Fisher

Dr Andrew Fisher is a retired Superintendent of Merseyside Police. He has written and delivered a series of police related training courses for the Abu Dhabi Community Policing and Police Science Institute. He also works to improve levels of community engagement, confidence and customer service with a number of emergency service organisations in the UK and USA. Andrew attained a first class honours degree in Police Leadership and Management and has a doctorate in Policing, Security and Community Safety. Andrew is an Assoc' Lecturer at Liverpool Hope University (MSc in Police Leadership).



Darren Walton,

I am a Community Inspector with the responsibility for Seaham which is a small town in the Durham Constabulary area. Seaham was historically a small mining town and since the pit closures certain areas have slowly degenerated as has relationships with the police and local authority. In early 2014 the Seaham team embarked on the Mutual Gain programme in an attempt to break down barriers and enhance community potency in the Seaham area and in particular the Deneside estate. This estate housed some third generation organised crime families. In January 2015 we held a Participatory Budget event with £26,000 available. Nearly 500 residents attended the event. As a result a number of projects have taken place in the area. The results have been astounding. The community has become more powerful, the relationship with the police is excellent and the area is now a better place to live. Further social capital is being introduced into Seaham and collectively the police, residents and the local authority will continue to improve the area.



Paul Twivy

Paul has been an adviser to the last 3 UK Prime Ministers as well as to numerous CEO's. He is one of the best-known strategic thinkers and innovators in Branding, Innovation and Marketing Communications. His career combines founding, running and advising social movements and enterprises such as Comic Relief, Change the World for a Fiver, The Big Lunch and Your Square Mile with consultancy work advising the Boards of some of the world's best known organisations. During his 34-year career, he has started two distinctive communications agencies – Still Price Court Twivy D'Souza and Circus - and been Deputy Chairman of JWT, Group Chief Executive of Bates Dorland, Global Head of Digital Development for all Saatchi and Bates agencies and Chief Strategic Planning Officer for McCann-Erickson, EMEA. Paul was also Marketing Adviser to the BBC.



Leslie Silverlock

Leslie Silverlock, Localism Advisor, including Big Local, Community Budgeting, Our Place, First Steps, Eden Champions, Young Advisors, 35 PB events, training and evaluations, majoring in matched, mainstream, public service funding, and small, rural, resident led initiatives. Director, Groups Work; Learning and Development Professional of the Year 2007. Previously: Your Local Budget, 'The School Belongs to All of Us', Education Officer, Crime Director, Councillor, counsellor, teacher, youth worker, play leader. Coordinates the South West Localism Group, edited 'Localism in Action', and advised the Minister's Localism Alliance what needs to happen next! Contact Leslie at lesliesilverlock@groupswork.com



Jez Hall

I have worked on promoting Participatory Budgeting (PB) in the UK since August 2000, and regarding as one of the leading experts on PB in the UK. As well as developing some of the first models of PB in the UK, I helped found the PB Unit in 2006 and have worked as an associate of the Unit for many years. I helped develop the PB Unit's toolkits and led masterclasses and delivered training on PB for local practitioners, front line staff, heads of department and up to chief executives and senior elected members. I am also on the advisory board for the Participatory Budgeting Project, based in New York, and leading work on PB in the USA and Canada, and act as coordinator for PB Partners.



Amanda Murrell

Amanda's passion is assisting individuals to succeed, by increasing their confidence and self-belief and empowering them to take responsibility for their actions. She has been involved with PB training programmes since 2008 on behalf of The Consultation Institute. She has worked with other PB Partners to deliver various courses on PB, some that have been generic and some that have been co-developed and delivered, for example; bespoke courses for Guy's & St Thomas Hospital, NHS Cambridge, Leicestershire. She has been advising and supporting Angus Council in Scotland, with their PB project and is also involved with a PB project in Hackney for Connect Hackney CVS.

Sponsors



Delib

Delib is a digital democracy company. We're committed to improving the ongoing relationship between citizens and government by providing easy-to-use online tools for public involvement. We help government run excellent, effective public consultations. And we help people give their views on decisions that affect them.

More than 250 government organisations around the world have used our tools. Our customers have run more than 6,000 consultations using Citizen Space. They've consulted on more than £60bn of budgets via Budget Simulator. People have submitted over 700,000 ideas, ratings and comments through Dialogue.

We work hard to make tools that work for citizens and public servants. And, one day, we want to have our apps used by every democratically accountable organisation in the world, transforming – in small but significant ways – the lives of hundreds of millions of citizens. More at <http://www.delib.net/>

Delib are sponsoring the refreshments and lunch for the PB Network conference



MutualGain

MutualGain is committed to supporting a paradigm shift in public service engagement. By connecting the conversations in communities with the conversations taking place in organisations we enable you to co-produce local services by tapping into the spirit and energy of your community. Whether you are reviewing your approach to engagement or seeking innovative solutions to challenging social problems, we have the methods to help you achieve mutual gain.

The raison d'être of MutualGain is to empower organisations and communities to reconnect in the social space, which lies between the state and the individual. Ultimately, we aim to promote greater participation and active citizenship within our democracy and increase social capital, for the mutual benefit of all.

Mutual Gain can be contacted at <http://www.mutualgain.org/>



PB Partners

PB Partners are dedicated to community empowerment. We are experts in the field of Participatory Budgeting(PB). We operate across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and can assist you in developing meaningful community engagement programmes that really 'make people count'.

PB Partners is administered by Shared Future CIC, a social enterprise with a track record in quality community engagement and development. We also provide financial support to the PB Network. We work closely with a range of democracy experts and campaign organisations, such as Church Action on Poverty, hosts of the now closed PB Unit. The PB Unit led the development of PB in the UK between 2006 and 2012. We are also collaborating with The Consultation Institute to deliver PB training, and with academics at the University of Westminster's Centre for the Study of Democracy. More at <http://www.pbpartners.org.uk/>



The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Scottish Government

The devolved government for Scotland has a range of responsibilities which include: health, education, justice, rural affairs, housing and the environment. Some powers are reserved to the UK government.

The Government is led by the First Minister. The Scottish Parliament nominates one of its Members to be appointed as First Minister by the Queen. He or she is assisted by Cabinet Secretaries (Ministers) with individual portfolios, who are appointed by him/her with the approval of Parliament. Junior Scottish Ministers are similarly appointed to assist Cabinet Secretaries in their work.

The Scottish Law Officers, the Lord Advocate and Solicitor General can be appointed from outside the Parliament's membership, but are subject to its approval. The First Minister, the Cabinet Secretaries and the Scottish Law Officers are the Members of the Scottish Government. They are collectively known as the "Scottish Ministers".

Each year the Scottish Government announces its annual Programme for Government. This sets out the Government's proposed legislation for the coming year, as well as summarising the Scottish Government's key achievements and policy goals for the future - both legislative and non-legislative.

More at <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/programme-for-government>



Shared Future

We are a community interest company primarily serving the North West of England, and with associates based across the UK. Through our commitment to creating a fairer and more sustainable world, we set up Shared Future in 2009, and we are now rapidly growing, not least through being privileged to coordinate the work of PB Partners and provide secretarial support to the PB network. Our offer is wider than just PB however, covering supporting social enterprise, citizen enquiries, community led design and leadership development. Our aim is to provide an excellent service that makes a difference to communities and individuals and works towards a more equal society. We've built a team of experienced consultants and practitioners with a diverse range of skills. We work together on worthwhile and stimulating projects that reflect our personal values. See <http://www.sharedfuturecic.org.uk/>



Your Square Mile

Your Square Mile was established in 2010 as a social enterprise to help citizens make positive change in their neighbourhood by providing tools, inspiration and advice on how to be a savvy citizen and pull the levers of change. It now specialises in working with businesses and local authorities on developing bespoke approaches to community engagement.

In the original 16 communities where we have worked, some of which are the toughest in the UK, we doubled constructive contact between citizens and local authorities; increased from half to two-thirds the number of people who feel they can influence local decisions, increased neighbourly contact and increased the number of people saying they like their area. Some remarkable individual projects have also been launched. We have now worked successfully with Heineken and Unilever in a further 13 communities.

'We've been able to identify and respond to local needs rather than impose projects from the centre. We are now delivering a range of projects that local people and colleagues believe will make a difference to their local community' : David Patterson, Head of Public Affairs, Heineken. More information at <http://www.yoursquaremile.co.uk/>

Thanks for their support and help also go to



Dave Thorp: Award-winning international film-maker based in York, UK. His previous projects have taken him to China, The Philippines, USA, Russia and most European countries where he shoots documentaries, drama, music videos, TV commercials and countless corporate shoots for clients including Deutsche Bank, HSBC, Flymo, Scottish Power and MutualGain! He always keen to work with local businesses and believes movies are one of the most effective and powerful ways to engage and communicate with potential customers and new clients.

Thanks for their help promoting our conference and in other ways:

- The Policing Insight website: <https://policinginsight.com/>
- Scottish Community Development Centre/PB Scot website: <http://pbscotland.scot/>
- North East Commissioning Support, Scottish Local Authorities and Durham Constabulary and others for releasing staff to share learning at workshops.
- All the members of the PB Network Steering group
- Angela Diggle and Tanya Medukha for admin and reception support

And many others!