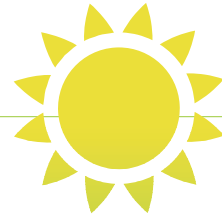




THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
**KINGSTON**  
UPON THAMES

SUPPORTED BY:



# **BUSINESS GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE GREEN ECONOMY**

**11 MAY 2021 10.30-12.30PM**

## **PROGRAMME**

[www.green-kingston.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.green-kingston.eventbrite.co.uk)



## **BUSINESS GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE GREEN ECONOMY**

**Kingston Council**, in partnership with **Kingston Chamber of Commerce**, invites all businesses in and around the borough, to join our virtual roundtables, focusing on the opportunities from the transition to a green economy.

We want to help local businesses grow back from the pandemic stronger and greener. Guest speakers will be leading diverse discussions on questions such as:

- What are the business opportunities from the transition to a green economy?
- How can businesses implement low-cost actions to be more efficient and reduce emissions
- What does a green economy actually mean?
- Understand how tools and technologies can enable businesses to decarbonise and make savings
- Which barriers prevent businesses from becoming greener and how can these be removed?

These discussions will also offer an opportunity for businesses to tell us what type of support they need from us to take advantage of the opportunities created and innovate, become more efficient, invest and grow while becoming greener.

### **PROGRAMME**

One event/webinar which will be consisted of:

#### **A Preliminary Session:**

These will set the scene: e.g. what is climate change & green economy; what are the typical business benefits that might arise from low carbon transitions.

#### **Breakout Groups**

There will be three breakout groups and facilitated discussions, one for each of the following industries:

- **Built Environment; Construction, Energy, Transport**
- **Business & Professional Services, Manufacturing & Technology**
- **Hospitality; Retail, Arts/Culture & Leisure**

#### **Plenary Session**

There will be feedback from the breakout sessions & discussions: all the participants will be brought back to the main room, facilitators present the key points of the discussions in the breakout rooms and further discussions can take place.





#### **Conclusions**

We will wrap up the discussions with the next steps and closing remarks.




### **TIMINGS**

10.30AM	<b>PRELIMINARY SESSION</b>
10.50AM	<b>BREAKOUT GROUPS</b>
11.50AM	<b>BREAK</b>
12.00PM	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b>
12.25PM	<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>








SESSION	CHAIR / SPEAKERS / FACILITATORS	JOB TITLE / EXPERTISE / TOPIC	ORGANISATION
<b>PRELIMINARY</b>			
<b>CHAIR</b>	 <b>Forbes Low</b>	Chief Executive	Kingston Chamber of Commerce
<b>Speakers</b>	 <b>Dr Neil Jennings</b>	Partnership Development Manager	Grantham Institute/ Imperial College
	 <b>David Symons</b>	UK Director of Sustainability	WSP
	 <b>Prof Audley Genus</b>	Professor of Innovation and Sustainability	Kingston University
	 <b>Isabella O'Dowd</b>	Head of Climate	WWF-UK

## **BUILT ENVIRONMENT BUILT ENVIRONMENT; CONSTRUCTION, ENERGY, TRANSPORT**

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	 <b>Prof Peter Garside</b>	Human Geography Professor	Kingston University
<b>Speakers</b>	 <b>Tim Rose &amp; Maria Brucoli</b>	Project Delivery Manager R&D Manager	EDF Group: Pivot Power & EDF Energy
	 <b>Prof Hasan Haroglu</b>	Head of Department of Civil Engineering, Surveying and Construction Management & Member	Kingston University & The Concrete Centre
	 <b>Ben Knowles</b>	Rider (City and Guilds Level 3) / CEO	Pedal Me
	 <b>Nathan James Van Gambling</b>	Plumbing / Heating Lecturer / Training consultant	<a href="https://twitter.com/betateach">https://twitter.com/betateach</a> <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/betateach">linkedin.com/in/betaTeach</a>



SESSION	CHAIR / SPEAKERS / FACILITATORS	JOB TITLE / EXPERTISE /TOPIC	ORGANISATION
<b>BUSINESS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES &amp; MANUFACTURING &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b>			
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	 <b>Andrew Wooldridge</b>	Chair	Kingston Business Forum
<b>Speakers</b>	 <b>Will Todd</b>	Managing Director	Carbon Architecture
	 <b>Sophie Walker</b>	COO and Co-Founder	Dsposal UK ( <a href="https://dsposal.uk">https://dsposal.uk</a> )
	 <b>Michelle Peters</b>	Founder	Paragon Office Cleaning
	 <b>David Randall</b>	Founder	Maple Works

## HOSPITALITY: RETAIL, ARTS/ CULTURE & CULTURE & LEISURE

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	 <b>Sam Eastwood</b>	Centre Director	Bentall Centre Kingston First Chair
<b>Speakers</b>	 <b>Isaac Pelham-Chipper</b>	Sustainability Advisor	Considerate
	 <b>Robert O'Dowd</b>	CEO	Rose Theatre
	 <b>Virginia Grose</b>	Independent Consultant in International Retail. & Lecturer, Kingston resident	University of Westminster
	 <b>Sarah Clay</b>	Director	Voices of Hope UK



## BIOGRAPHIES

### **Maria Brucoli**

Dr Maria Brucoli is a chartered electrical engineer with over 17 years of experience both in academia and industry. Maria holds a first class cum summa laude master's degree from Politecnico di Bari in power systems engineering and a PhD from Imperial College, London where she was also a research associate. She is a technical expert on microgrids and smart energy solutions. Her industry work spans numerous fields of electrical engineering including design for building services, energy consulting for some of the key market players and international development for rural energy systems. Currently, Maria is the Smart Energy Systems Manager with the EDF Energy R&D UK Centre supporting the business activities around distributed generation, battery storage, microgrids and local energy markets.

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### **Sarah Clay**

Sarah is the founder and director of Voices of Hope. She has an MA in Music and Education from Cambridge University and is an Associate of the Royal College of Music. With many years of music teaching and conducting experience, she brings a high level of musical competence and experience to the task of leading VoH. Her innate passion and compassion produce a compelling desire to see people thriving within community, filled with hope, and into their own journey of healing, restoration and empowerment. She loves to see people believing in themselves, growing in confidence and taking steps towards fulfilling their potential. The projects undertaken by VoH under Sarah's leadership express these characteristics powerfully.

Sarah is a recipient of the Mayor of Kingston's Community Award 2020 and the Lord Lieutenant's recognition of outstanding contribution during Covid, 2021. Over the last year she has developed and started four significant projects to address need within the community including Kingstonaid Food HUB, The Good Food Co-op, BRITE Box and the Active Breathing Course.

Behind the scenes VoH has a strong team of trustees, staff and 70+ volunteers who bring a wide variety of skills, experience and can-do attitude essential to the work of VoH.

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### **Sam Eastwood**

Highly skilled Centre Director with over 25 years experience in the retail property sector; management of regional shopping centres across the UK for a variety of landlord's including Hammerson, Standard Life, Invesco and Aviva. Sam has a track record of directing strategic initiatives to successfully leverage each Centre's customer appeal. He has managed multiple schemes, led major developments and instigated repositioning initiatives; all of which have centred on strategies to enhance his customer's experience, drive retail prosperity and optimise Landlord's income return and valuation growth.

Sam bridges the gap between property and asset management, using his experience and insight to surpass operational, financial and service quality targets across the industry and has a passion for building effective and result driven teams striving to outperform. An active community member, Sam serves as the Chairman of Kingston First Board and is a member of the Customer Experience Committee for Revo, judging on the ACE Customer Experience Awards.

### **Prof Peter Garside**

Dr Pete Garside is Head of the Department of Geography and the Environment at Kingston University – he has over thirty years of experience working in the field of urban and regional development, providing economic assessments and evaluations for a wide range of public and private sector institutions – with the ultimate goal of improving development opportunities for vulnerable groups. Projects include: a national scoping study of Community Land Auction Pilots, a review of the National Land Use Database and a study to avert unregulated back garden development. He recently completed a London wide study into affordable housing which provided material evidence for all boroughs to challenge national planning guidance and he is currently helping evaluate the Internet of Things project for the South London Partnership to improve local authority service delivery across a range of departments related to the built environment.

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### **Prof Audley Genus**

Audley Genus has been Professor of Innovation and Sustainability at Kingston Business School since February, 2012. He is the Director of the Small Business Research Centre (SBRC) and recently was awarded funding to set up Kingston Sustainability Living Lab. He leads a research hub for researching innovation and sustainability (RISE) within the Business School. Audley is Chair of the special interest group for social and sustainable enterprise for the Institute for Small Business and Entrepreneurship and a member of the steering committee of SCORAI (Sustainable Consumption and Research Action Initiative) Europe. Audley holds a PhD from Aston Business School, awarded in 1991 for work on energy technology policy-making. He has supervised six PhD students to completion and acted as external examiner for three PhD students. Audley has been an external examiner for the Open University (among others) and visiting professor at Anglia Ruskin University.

Audley's approach to blending research, business and civic engagement and education has been greatly influenced by experience gained in his time working for Newcastle University, Brunel University and University of Greenwich, as well as at Kingston University. (He has also worked for business schools at Aston University and Royal Holloway, University of London). Audley recently completed a multi-country, three-year research project ('ENERGISE'), with a significant business and public engagement component, that was funded by the European Commission Horizon 2020 programme.

Immediately prior to that, Audley worked with the Permaculture Association on a project which helped to extend the scope of research on sustainable entrepreneurship and supported practitioners to develop their business. He publishes regularly in highly respected innovation journals (such as Research Policy) and attends and presents at high profile international conferences, seminars and webinars.





## BIOGRAPHIES

### Virginia Grose

Virginia Grose is Principal Lecturer and Programme Director for Fashion Business Management at the University of Westminster and was a Design Executive and Product Developer at Courtaulds Textiles for 20 years. With a background in product development in the fashion industry supplying major retailers in the UK and USA, after leaving Courtaulds 15 years ago Virginia worked as a consultant to a Hong Kong Knitwear Manufacturer supplying niche clients in Europe where she was able to develop and work with just about anything made with cashmere and other knitwear products.

Her research and writing includes :

- A Practical Guide to the Fashion Industry: Concept to Customer Basics of Fashion Management 2nd Edition  
Bloomsbury Publishing ISBN1350079677, 9781350079670
- Grose, Virginia. Silver Label Cashmere: Solving the Cashmere Crisis with Sustainable Cashmere. United Kingdom: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2019.

### Dr Neil Jennings

Dr Neil Jennings is a Kingston resident and works as Partnership Development Manager at the Grantham Institute, Climate Change and the Environment at Imperial College London. As part of his role, Neil is responsible for supporting the development of strategic partnerships with policy-makers, business and non-governmental organisations. He has a specific interest in the co-benefits of climate action– how tackling climate change can help create a cleaner, greener, fairer future and how these co-benefits can be better considered in the decision-making process.

### Ben Knowles

A starter and leader of disruptive projects, an entrepreneur, and now a CEO. A believer in the power of working cooperatively, deep insight, and leadership. Fewer motors, and motor trips, will make our cities more pleasant, more equitable, more prosperous places - and help tackle climate change. Let's make it happen.

### Forbes Low

Forbes has a long history with the Chamber, he joined as a member in 2009, later becoming a Director and then President.

Forbes is also a graphic designer and has run his own business, Forbes Design Associates since 1998. Forbes is based locally and is a former Kingston Grammar School pupil.

He took up the role of Chief Executive of Kingston Chamber of Commerce in April 2019.

### Isabella O'Dowd

Responsible for leading a team of climate specialists focused on UK policy and action to reduce emissions across all sectors to tackle climate change, working closely with a wider network of climate and energy specialists across the WWF global network. Whilst at WWF Isabella has led on net-zero, encouraging the UK government to set an ambitious net-zero emissions target in the UK to keep warming below 1.5 degrees and is also working on green recovery. Prior to joining WWF Isabella spent over two years working as a Policy and Business Analyst at the UK Solar Trade Association.

### Robert O'Dowd

Robert joined the Rose in November 2011 having previously been Chief Executive of Pontio, a Performance Art and Innovation Centre in Bangor North Wales. Prior to that he was Chief Executive of Designs of the Time, a ten year public engagement sustainability design programme set up by the Design Council. Robert was also a founding director of Classic FM and had a long career in retail, concluding as Buying and Merchandising Director for House of Fraser.

His passion in work is to create and develop sustainable performing arts businesses. He was asked to join the Rose to build on the work that had been done since it opened and to develop a long-term financially secure future.

### Isaac Pelham-Chipper

Isaac is a sustainability advisor for Considerate Group, a team of specialists in sustainable hospitality operations and energy management. Over the past year, Isaac and his close colleagues have been working with BEIS to develop an first-of-its-kind energy efficiency app designed specifically for the hospitality sector with a focus on SMEs. His other work focuses on creating and delivering CSR and ESG strategies for large hotel groups and asset managers.

### Michelle Peters

Michelle has worked in the cleaning service industry for 30 years as a company director. She strongly believes that all commercial cleaning services can use products that don't harm the environment, and still be cost-effective and offer high quality. Following extensive research Michelle set up Paragon The Green Cleaning Company in 2015 on environmentally responsible foundations, incorporating her passion for eco-friendly choices and sustainability by using accredited ecologically responsible cleaning products.

By providing greener cleaning services she also helps her clients achieve their environmental goals. Paragon's approach provides a healthy environment for all business, homes, pets and wildlife. Michelle is an active volunteer with The Wildlife Aid Foundation which is dedicated to the rescue, care and rehabilitation of sick, injured and orphaned wild animals.

### David Randall

Local workspaces help to fulfil the vision of the 15-minute city, walkable urban environments which reduce outer London's dependence on the commute. David signed Maple Works up to the RBK Green Business Charter in 2014, and has now created two such spaces in Kingston which live up to the Green Business Charter ideals, reducing energy consumption where possible, cutting waste and increasing recycling,

David and is now part of the Crystalisr campaign for community wealth building (CWB) in the South London Boroughs. CWB is an engine for creating more green jobs to really kick start the local economy post-Covid, and the public engagement around CWB helps to increase participation in a green, solidarity economy.



## **BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Tim Rose**

Tim has 25 years' experience at senior management level in both the aerospace and renewables sectors, including 7 years with solar developer and owner, Solarcentury. He now works for Pivot Power, part of EDF Renewables, as Programme Manager for the Energy Superhub Oxford (ESO) project, leading a multi-party consortium for this UK Research and Innovation demonstrator project, which combines EV charging, heat and large scale batteries to support Oxford's route to net zero by 2040.

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### **David Symons**

David has worked on long-term future and sustainability programs for close to 30 years, advising companies and governments on long-term trends and developing practical, implementation programs to address these.

He's a regular media commentator on megatrends, with special focus on sustainability and technology future, in a variety of media including the BBC, Sky and national broadsheets.

David was bestowed Businessgreen.com's 2018 Leader of the Year award for his leadership of Future Ready.

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### **Prof Hasan Haroglu**

I am currently the Department Head of Civil Engineering, Surveying and Construction Management within the School of Engineering and Environment at Kingston University, London. I am a senior academic with leadership and management experience in professional bodies and academic institutions. I am a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) and a member of the CIOB Accreditation Panel. I am also a Senior Fellow of The Higher Education Academy (HEA). I am an academically and professionally qualified performance-driven senior academic & chartered construction manager with some 22 years experience, who has successfully transitioned from industry to academia. I earned an Engineering Doctorate (EngD) degree at Loughborough University. I also hold a MSc degree in Construction Management from Loughborough University.

My research interests span a number of areas, including improving interdisciplinary collaboration in the construction process; the changing nature of the building environmental assessment tools; quality management and application of digital technology across construction industry. And in the area of digital technology, I am currently focusing in particular on developing an improved understanding of the application of digital technologies for managing and improving construction quality.

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### **Will Todd**

Will is a founder of Carbon Architecture, a company that has a strong reputation for delivering solutions which help businesses reduce energy, waste and carbon. Will is recognised as a thought leader on topics including net zero roadmapping and energy efficiency. He's a chartered engineer, and besides running a growing business he has three small kids to keep him busy.

### **Nathan Van Gambling**

Nathan Gambling, known as BetaTeach on social media, believes in helping people learn. He has lectured in colleges, even a prison, and activates heating engineers and energy professionals as learning resources for one another which is evidenced as having a higher impact on learning than traditional lecture (instructional) based training models. He has a remarkable heritage: his grandfather was UK's leading oil combustion expert and venerated in Europe when central heating first became popular in homes in the 60's, his great uncle was the European energy manager for Unilever and his eldest cousin is one of the most regarded acoustic sensitive HVAC engineers in the UK installing and maintaining the AC systems in some of the world's most advanced post production and recording studios.

Nathan runs and hosts the Award Winning renewable energy and low carbon podcast BetaTalk and is valued as knowing the best renewable heating engineers in the UK.

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### **Sophie Walker**

Sophie is the COO and Co-Founder of Dsposal a clean-tech company who along with its sister social enterprise Your Dsposal, is on a mission to empower people to make better decisions with their resources and waste by increasing transparency and accountability to make a positive impact on our environment.

She's passionate about sustainability and draws on her varied background and experiences. Born in Tamil Nadu, India, she spent her early years on rural development projects before moving to North Devon, UK. Prior to founding the company in 2016, Sophie gained a degree in Conflict Resolution from the University of Bradford, cycled 8,700 miles around North America and enjoyed a winding career encompassing logistics and supply chain, the food industry and sustainability. She brings a fresh pair of eyes and breadth of experience to her new-found passion for the waste and resources industry. In her spare time, she volunteers on the Tech for Good Live podcast and is a trustee for the charity Village Service Trust, which supports health and community development in rural Tamil Nadu.

She is a Women in Innovation award winner, was voted joint 5th in the 2019 Resource Hot 100, is the Group Coordinator of the Waste Compliance Taskforce and is an alumna of the CSC Leaders Programme. She speaks internationally on waste, digitalisation, open data and open standards.

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### **Andrew Wooldridge**

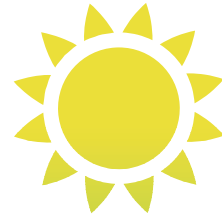
Andrew is an experienced Director with 35 years experience in the financial services sector, with particular expertise in the areas of equity market, property and capital investment. Andrew wants to ensure that the London Borough of Kingston upon Thames is a great place to work, live and invest. Passionate about local voices being heard and translating these into actions to improve our Borough.





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