

Co-operative Councils – *the way forward*

4 October 2018 – Croydon Clock Tower

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Councillor Sharon Taylor, OBE – Leader of Stevenage Borough Council and Chair of the Co-operative Councils’ Innovation Network

Councillor Sharon Taylor OBE has been Leader of Stevenage Borough Council since 2006, is a Hertfordshire County Councillor, and in 2017 became Chair of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network. She was the Local Government Innovation Unit’s ‘Council Leader of the Year’ in 2016/17.

As well as standing for parliament three times, she is a member of Labour’s National Policy Forum, and co-author of Labour’s Local Government Innovation Task Force Report (2015). She volunteers at Stevenage Community Food Bank and is a mother of three with six grandchildren.

@SharonStevenage



Conference host: Cllr Tony Newman – Croydon Council

Councillor Tony Newman was elected as Leader of Croydon Council in 2014 on a manifesto pledge to be Ambitious for Croydon. In 2015 he was proud to oversee Croydon Council join the Co-operative Councils’ Innovation Network. After successfully being re-elected in 2018, Councillor Newman is focussed on the clear priorities for Croydon and working to deliver a safer, healthier and greener borough with culture at its heart.

@CllrTony



Steve Reed, OBE MP – Shadow Minister (Digital, Culture Media and Sport) (Civil Society) Honorary President of the CCIN

Steve Reed is Labour and Co-operative MP for Croydon North. As Leader of Lambeth Council (2006-12) he established the country’s first co-operative council and the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network working across local government to find new ways to empower citizens and communities. He set up the country’s biggest community youth trust, a social enterprise that trains unemployed people to bring empty homes back into use and oversaw the country’s biggest asset transfer turning a derelict school site into a community hub. He has introduced a bill to stop the use of abusive restraint against people with mental ill health which is on track to become law this year.

@SteveReedMP

	<p>Tom Andrews – Sustainable Food Cities</p> <p>Tom Andrews manages Sustainable Food Cities, a partnership programme led by the Soil Association, Sustain and Food Matters and funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation that helps cross-sector food partnerships in towns and cities across the UK to make healthy and sustainable food a defining characteristic of where they live.</p> <p>@FoodCities</p>
	<p>John Atherton – Head of Membership, Co-operatives UK</p> <p>John is Head of Membership at Co-operatives UK the network for Britain's thousands of co-ops. John has worked in the co-operative and community sector for 15 years, with a passion for social and economic development based on self-help and sustainable approaches. The global co-operative movement of more than 3 million co-ops, touches the lives of 1.2 billion people. The UK now more than ever could benefit from more co-operation and new approaches to meeting the needs of our local communities.</p> <p>@athertonjohn</p>
	<p>Susan Bradshaw – National Delivery Manager, Modern Slavery Police Transformation Unit</p> <p>Sue has responsibility for managing the 10 Regional Modern Slavery Regional Coordinators based in each of the Regional and organised crime units (ROCU's) in the UK. She is a former Detective Inspector from Gloucestershire having served 32 years in the Police Service. The majority of which was spent working in Specialist/complex crime, and Public Protection. As a Senior Investigating officer (SIO) she has a wealth of experience in leading operations into the investigation of Slavery and Sex Trafficking.</p> <p>@policingslavery @SueBrad88867657</p>
	<p>Cllr Matthew Brown – Leader, Preston City Council</p> <p>Matthew Brown is Leader of Preston City Council and a Senior Fellow for the promotion of Community Wealth Building in the UK. Community Wealth Building is a growing movement to create more resilient and democratic local and regional economies. Cooperative Councils have the opportunity to be at the forefront of this transformative agenda.</p> <p>@MatthewBrownLab</p>
	<p>Cllr Peter Bradbury – Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture, Cardiff Council</p> <p>A native of Cardiff, Councillor Peter Bradbury was elected to Cardiff Council in 2012 to represent the Caerau ward. He is currently the Cabinet Member for Culture & Leisure.</p> <p>Since 2008 Peter has been employed by Kevin Brennan MP as a Communications Assistant and Researcher. He graduated from Glamorgan University in Media Studies with Sociology. Peter enjoys watching football, rugby and cricket at both the national and local level. He is married with two sons.</p> <p>@PEBradbury</p>



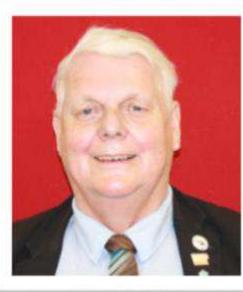
Cllr Nick Crofts – Liverpool City Councillor and President National Members’ Council, Co-operative Group

Nick Crofts was first elected to Liverpool City Council in 2012. He is the chair of Liverpool Labour Group.

He first became active in the Co-op in 2009 and is a passionate advocate of putting co-operative Values and Principles into action to improve people’s lives.

Nick was elected President of the Co-op Group in 2015, following their governance reforms after the near-collapse of the Co-operative Bank. The Co-op is the UK’s largest and oldest member-owned business.

@CoopCrofts



Councillor Ken Dalton – Halewood Town Council

Ken has been elected member of Halewood Town Council for eight years and is the CCIN Lead. His responsibilities and interests include:

- Volunteer and Voucher Holder at Knowsley Foodbank.
- Member of Pharmacy Regulations Committee for NHS England
- Member of Clinical Pharmacist Panel for NHS England
- PLACE Inspector for Whiston and St. Helens Hospitals
- Knowsley Healthwatch and Knowsley Older Peoples Voice
- Member of Halewood CultureFest Committee

@cllrkendalton



Cllr Steve Eling – Leader, Sandwell Council

Steve became Leader of Sandwell Council in May 2016 having joined the borough’s Cabinet in 2000 and has served on the Council since 1986.

His main political interests are public sector finances and neighbourhood policy and parks along with ongoing regeneration and Social Policy.

He holds the Portfolio for Cohesion Integration & Public Service Reform within the West Midlands Combined Authority, spearheading inclusive growth and driving collaboration across Councils and other Agencies.

@sandwellcouncil



Cllr Simon Hall – Cabinet Member for Finance & Treasury, Croydon Council

Simon Hall has over 20 years’ experience as a Chartered Accountant and Change Manager, working across the UK and internationally. For the last four years, he has been the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources for the 6th largest authority in the country. He has been responsible for leading the finances, commissioning and contract management, HR, assets, legal services and transformation, including overhauling the approach to procurement and introducing innovation

@CllrSimonHall

	<p>Cllr Emma Hoddinott – Local Government Officer, Co-operative Party Emma Hoddinott is the Local Government Officer for the Co-operative Party, supporting over 800 Co-operative Councillors across the country. The Co-operative Party launched their Charter against Modern Slavery earlier this year with Islington, Lambeth, Stevenage, Oxford, Waltham Forest and Bristol councils. So far, 33 councils have signed the Charter and over 8 million now live in an area where their council has agreed to implement the Charter.” Emma Hoddinott is also a Councillor and Cabinet Member for Waste, Roads and Community Safety, having been first elected as a Councillor for the Wickersley ward of Rotherham Borough Council in May 2012. @Emma_Hoddinott</p>
	<p>Lord Kennedy of Southwark - Shadow Minister for Local Government in the House of Lords Lord Kennedy of Southwark has previously served as a Councillor in both Southwark and Lewisham. He has been a cooperator for 40 years and is presently vice chair of the Cooperative Party Parliamentary Group and a member of the National Executive Committee. Roy is also a director of his local credit union and a member of the Fabian Society Executive. @LordRoyKennedy</p>
	<p>Liz Lambert – Sustainable Development Group Leader, Cardiff Council Liz Lambert has worked on sustainable development for over 20 years in local government, the voluntary sector and international development. She manages the Sustainable Development Unit at Cardiff Council, including the Council's food strategy, domestic energy efficiency and fuel poverty alleviation, climate change and environmental management system.</p>
	<p>Cllr Iain Malcolm - South Tyneside Council Iain Malcolm served as the Chief of Staff to Alan Donnelly MEP and was appointed Special Advisor to the Co-operative Commission, launched by Prime Minister Blair. He was elected to South Tyneside Council in May 1988 and became Leader of the Council in May 2008. Responsibilities include: Chair of the Board of Newcastle International Airport; member of the North East LEP Board; member of the North East Combined Authority; Chairman of the Region’s Economic and Development Board member of the South Tyneside Foundation Trusts Board. @iainmalcolmuk</p>

	<p>Simon Parkinson - Chief Executive & Principal, Co-operative College UK Simon joined the Co-operative College in March 2015 having previously worked at Royal Mencap Society, the country's leading charity for people with learning disabilities. At the Co-operative College Simon is building on the strong foundations of the past whilst creating a new, vibrant, innovative and relevant heart for co-operation education. The Co-operative College is an educational charity dedicated to the promotion of co-operative values and principles. Through learning we empower and inspire individuals, co-operatives and communities to use co-operative values and principles to build a fairer world. @SimonParkinson6</p>
	<p>Councillor Lib Peck – Leader of Lambeth Council Cllr Lib Peck has been the Leader of Lambeth Council since 2012, and a councillor for the Thornton ward since 2001. As Leader of the Council, Lib is responsible for setting the overall political and strategic direction for Lambeth. Over the next four years, her key priorities are to bring inward jobs and investment to the borough; to make Lambeth cleaner and greener; and to help ensure the health and wellbeing of all residents. Lib is the deputy leader of the Labour group at the Local Government Association, and the deputy chair of London Councils. @CllrPeck</p>
	<p>Cllr Chris Penberthy – Cabinet Member for Housing and Cooperative Development, Plymouth City Council Councillor Chris Penberthy has been a Labour and Co-operative Plymouth City Councillor since 2011 and the cabinet member for Housing and Co-operative Development. He is an experienced public policy, co-operative development and third sector practitioner with expertise in community engagement and volunteering; he is particularly interested in how Government can give more power and decision-making to people at a local level. He is currently chair of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network Values and Principles Board. @ChrisPenberthy</p>
	<p>Cllr Habib Rahman – Cabinet Member for Communities, Newcastle City Council Habib Rahman was first elected to Newcastle City Council on 06 May 2010. He is a Labour Councillor for Elswick Ward. Habib was appointed as Cabinet Member for Communities in May 2018 where he is responsible for promoting good community relations, tackling discrimination and celebrating diversity. He also has responsibility for Community Safety and liaison with Police and the criminal justice system. Habib has a background in youth services and with Citizens Advice. @newcastleCC</p>



Cllr Manju Shahul-Hameed – Cabinet Member for Economy and Jobs, Croydon Council

Councillor Sahul-Hameed has been a councillor for the London Borough of Croydon since 2006. In her cabinet role, Manju is responsible for:

- Ensuring Croydon residents and businesses benefit from regeneration, investment and growth in the borough.
- Creating conditions for sustainable economic growth.
- Attracting businesses and creating new jobs.
- Enabling residents to gain skills to move towards and into employment opportunities.

@yourcroydon



Councillor Danny Thorpe – Leader of Royal Borough of Greenwich

Councillor Thorpe has been a Councillor in the Royal Borough of Greenwich since July 2004 and became Leader in May 2018. His vision and key priorities are:

- Greater equality
- A greener and more sustainable Greenwich
- Meeting housing need
- Fair and transparent planning
- Outstanding education for all children
- Boosting the Greenwich economy
- Financial transparency and value for money
- Greater accountability and engagement.

@DanLThorpe
