



London & South East Regional Advisory Board

David Coleman – Chair

Steve Ankers

Charles Anson

Chloe Bird

Patricia Brown

Rebecca Crook

Roger Leech

Lynnette Leeson

Rodney Morgan-Giles

Jill Preston



David Coleman

Chair



Areas of Interest: Countryside; Planning; landscape, forestry and outdoor recreation; Chair of the LSE Covenants Board

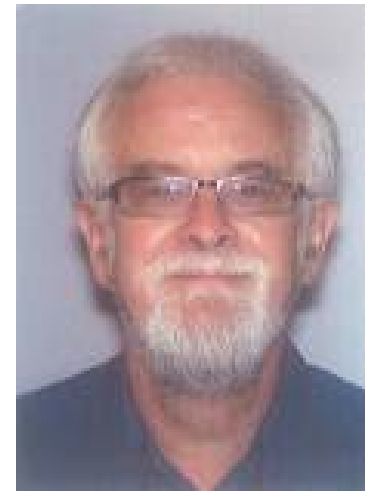
David spent most of his career in the Countryside Commission/Countryside Agency. He was Regional Director in the Eastern Region during the establishment of the Broads Authority and Regional Director in London and the South East dealing with issues such as proposals for national parks in the South Downs and the New Forest, airport expansion and the Thames Path national trail.

In 2002 David moved to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, initially responsible for initiatives to improve the quality of public services in rural areas. He then took over responsibility for Government policy on landscape, forestry and outdoor recreation, and for sponsoring the bodies which Defra funds to deliver the policy – Natural England, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, the National Forest Company and the nine national park authorities.

David retired from Defra in 2008. David is on the CPRE Policy Committee, an ambassador for The Conservation Volunteers and a trustee of Learning through Landscapes, the school grounds charity.



Steve Ankers



Areas of Interest: Planning (in particular the impact on the countryside, primarily the South Downs National Park).

Steve, a geographer and town planner by qualification, led the countryside planning and environmental work at Greater Manchester Council, Greater Manchester Countryside Unit and East Sussex County Council before assuming his current part-time post as Policy Officer for the South Downs Society, the Friends group for the South Downs National Park. He has served on numerous national task forces and committees involved with biodiversity, coastal zone management and the countryside. At East Sussex CC he also had responsibility for transport planning, road safety and economic development.

He is co-author of two published books satirising the planning system (The Grotton Papers and Grotton Revisited: Planning in Crisis?). His most recently published book (2014), “It’s a Dog’s Life for the Other Half”, has nothing to do with planning and everything to do with a life surrounded by vets.



Charles Anson



Areas of Interest: Communications with national & local media; Crises management with the media; branding of products and services; fundraising policies and issues; government relations; coast (in particular Seven Sisters); built heritage (in particular Batemans, Alfriston & Rodmell)

Charles chaired the South Downs Joint Committee (SDJC) from 2009–11 which helped to establish the South Downs National Park. He has held senior posts running communications strategy and media relations in both the public and private sectors over the last 25 years - as Press Secretary to The Queen (1990-97) and in the Number 10 Press Office as well as in business for three major international companies, Kleinwort Benson (investment bank), Diageo and Hilton Group. He was a member of the Press Complaints Commission from 2012 -14 and is a Trustee of Cumberland Lodge Windsor, a think tank focusing on issues of social cohesion (since February 2017).

His current role as a communications and public affairs consultant involves working with clients in the City of London and in the travel and tourism sector. His main areas of expertise are in communications strategy, brand building and crisis management, as well as dealings with Governments and regulators. Charles is interested in historic buildings and open spaces, particularly the need to protect them whilst still providing good public access for enjoyment. In this context, he is an active member of a small new charity, Cuckmere Haven Save Our Shore (CHSOS), and for six years was a Trustee of the Brogdale Horticultural Trust, whose main function was to look after the National Fruit Collection.



Chloë Bird



Areas of Interest: HLF, Public visitor engagement, interpretation, audience development. Member of the LSE London Advisory Board

Chloë currently works as a heritage participation consultant for organisations across London and South East including recent projects at the Royal Academy, the Old Royal Naval College, St Alfege Church, the Museum of Army Flying and Petersfield Museum. She develops learning and participation programmes for large-scale Heritage Lottery fund bids as well as running consultations with a range of stakeholder groups and supporting organisational capacity building in relation to public engagement. In addition to this, Chloë is Heritage Participation Associate at Southbank Centre, leading their heritage development work. Prior to being freelance, Chloë ran English Heritage's outreach provision for London, heading up the High Street 2012 heritage, culture and community commissioning programme. She also project managed London Voices, a pan London community engagement project focusing on developing family audiences for the National Trust.

Chloë supports heritage organisations to improve visitor engagement and enjoyment. She is interested in participatory approaches that place the public at the heart of heritage work through the active involvement of audiences in heritage presentation and stewardship. She has a particular interest in innovative interpretation and visitor experiences that open up heritage practices to the public. Chloë is committed to developing audiences by finding creative and inspiring ways for people, whatever their age or background, to make connections between heritage environments and their own lives.



Patricia Brown



Areas of Interest: Leith Hill Place, Member of the LSE London Advisory Board, audience engagement and growth, change management

Patricia runs Central, a niche consultancy advising business and civic leaders on partnerships, developments and projects to create thriving places, economies and business. Her work largely centres on understanding the dynamics of places, and the process of achieving change.

As the former CEO of Central London Partnership (CLP) she championed the need to improve the quality of the built environment, paving the way to some of the capital's most significant urban changes, and the strong ethos of private sector engagement in achieving these results.

She led the development of the UK's first Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and Legible London, the capital's wayfinding system. Major public realm initiatives include leading major studies such as Gehl Architect's Public Space Public Life study and the lobbying campaign for the pedestrianisation of Trafalgar Square.

Prior to CLP she was Director at London First Centre, London's nascent inward investment agency, and has held a variety of urban affairs roles.

She now works across the UK, as well as New York, where she is an adviser to Times Square Alliance and a consultant to NYU's Schack Institute of Real Estate. Patricia is Deputy Chair of the Mayor's Design Advisory Group, and Vice-Chair of the British Property Federation's Development Committee, and a Trustee of The Geffrye Museum, London International Festival of Theatre and Newlyn Art Gallery.



Rebecca Crook



With 15 years experience Rebecca is a Business Director sitting on the Board of a digital consultancy in London working with global brands advising across digital innovation, technology, customer experiences and business planning.

Rebecca has worked with blue chip brands across many sectors from retail, banking and the not-for-profit sector developing strategic marketing plans, getting new products and services to market as well as improving and increasing profitability of businesses.

Rebecca was a Business Mentor for The Prince's Trust working with start-up companies for 6 years. She is currently the Chair and Director of Saltdean Lido Community Interest Company, the country's only Grade II*(star) listed lido and has responsibility for leading the £10million refurbishment programme. Rebecca wrote the Listing application to English Heritage and has secured £8million of funding to date with building works commencing Spring 2015. She leads on the business planning, fundraising and community volunteer engagement elements of the project.

Later in the year, the project will be launching the country's most ambitious community share offer on a listed building with a target of £1million to be raised.

Rebecca is a regular spokesperson in the media commenting on bringing heritage buildings back into use for the benefit of communities and the regeneration of coastal communities.

She has a wide range of interests including a passion for heritage properties and open spaces. She has extensive experience across digital and social media strategies, marketing, fundraising applications, major public participation events, community engagement and business planning.



Roger Leech



Roger was formerly Head of Archaeology in the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, now merged with English Heritage, responsible for the national programmes of archaeological survey, air photography and record management. After reading History and Anglo-Saxon studies at Cambridge, a career in teaching was followed by one in archaeology. His first post with the Royal Commission was as Head of the National Archaeological Record at Southampton, formerly the Archaeology Division of the Ordnance Survey, where his responsibilities included the oversight of the depiction of antiquities on the national mapping and the computerisation of the card index of all the archaeological sites in England, now accessible to the public on the English Heritage web site as Pastscape.

Roger's early archaeological interests and his postgraduate research were concerned with Roman Britain. Latterly he has specialised more in the archaeology of the recent past, where he has contributed to research on medieval and early modern urban housing and the connections between Britain and the Caribbean and is a past president of the Society for Post Medieval Archaeology. Following his retirement from the staff of the Royal Commission in 1998, he has been Visiting Professor in archaeology at the Universities of Reading and [Southampton](#). He is also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, a Member of the Institute for Archaeologists, a long-term member of the National Trust and an enthusiastic walker and cyclist. He traces his interests in archaeology, history and countryside back to his childhood and teenage years in High Wycombe, a town in Buckinghamshire close to many National Trust houses and areas of landscape.



Lynnette Leeson



Areas of Interest: Member of the LSE Growing Support board, HLF expert advisor, environmental planning.

Lynnette is a member of the Royal Town Planning Institute and has worked in strategic planning and sustainable development at national, regional and local level. She has over twenty five years of experience in planning, environmental policy development, landscape protection, rural affairs and stakeholder engagement working for both the public and private sector, voluntary bodies and charitable organisations.

After several years at Waverley Borough Council as a planning officer, she worked for the Countryside Commission and Countryside Agency specializing in developing policy and effective management of protected landscapes. In the South East Region she was responsible for the High Weald, Surrey Hills, Kent Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and the Sussex Downs Conservation Board. Later being part of the new National Parks Team setting up the New Forest and South Downs National Parks. As regional partnership officer she liaised closely with stakeholders on strategic planning documents, SE Plan, Catchment plans, local plans and major road and rail schemes. She subsequently chaired the SE Sustainability Forum.

Later as the Head of Communications and Public Affairs for the Countryside Agency she was responsible for advocacy and the agency's press and publications teams before its transition into Natural England.

Lynnette is currently working as an independent environmental planning consultant dealing with a variety of projects ranging from strategic Green Belt studies and neighbourhood plans, to housing reports and renewable energy developments in the SE. Lynnette has recently worked on the Fareham Strategic Gap study, Wandle landscape study and the, East Hampshire and South Downs National Park Green Infrastructure Studies.

Lynnette has been an advisor on advocacy to the Wildlife Trust movement and has recently stepped down as Vice Chair of the Sussex Wildlife Trust. She is a member of the Heritage Lottery Funds Panel of Expert advisors and helps to monitor Landscape Partnership schemes on behalf of the HLF.



Rodney Morgan-Giles



Areas of Interest: Farming industry, restoration of landscapes, renewable energy sources. Member of the Historic Houses Association.

Rodney is an arable farmer and forestry owner in Hampshire and has responsibility for a Grade 2* historic house and other listed buildings. Recent estate projects include biomass heating, planting new woodland and restoring landscape features.

Rodney has a degree in Economics and Law (Cambridge) and an MBA in Business management. He has worked in financial services and has been a director of companies in many other sectors. Rodney was Treasurer and on the Board of the CLA for many years, and was the association's appointee on the National Trust Council, now on the Regional Advisory Board, and also a member of the Historic Houses Association. Rodney has been chairman of Investment Committees and is a trustee of a pension fund and other charities.



Jill Preston



Areas of Interest: Member of the LSE Experiences Board, brand development, public programming for access and engagement.

Jill has spent her career in communications and commerce in the visitor attraction and not-for-profit sectors as well as fmcg in the UK and the wine and spirits industry internationally. For ten years she was Director of Communications & Commercial Activities at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, responsible for the strategic direction and delivery of its public operations, after which she moved to the National Gallery.

She has led a number of heritage and visitor projects including the restoration of Strathisla, The Glenlivet and Glen Grant Distillery and Garden in Speyside and, at Kew, The Orangery, Pagoda, Marianne North Gallery, Treetop Walkway and Climbers & Creepers. These projects involved major restoration and new builds plus the creation of facilities such as shops, cafes and galleries. She also played a major role in the development of Kew's Masterplan and in it gaining UNESCO World Heritage Site accreditation in 2006.

Jill is particularly interested in brand development and public programmes for access and engagement, working in partnerships and leading innovations such as the three years of 'A Year at Kew' series on BBC TV, the major exhibitions of Henry Moore and Chihuly, Gardens of Glass at Kew, the creation of botanical landscapes at the British Museum and 'Leo Live', live transmission of the Leonardo exhibition on TV and cinema from the National Gallery.

She has a passion for historical geography and the environment, stemming from a childhood in Cornwall and degree studies at Oxford University. Currently advising a number of organisations including the Orient Trust and Chair of Chelsea Physic Garden Enterprises Ltd, Jill has many interests including enthusiastic membership of a number of heritage, wildlife and conservation trusts.