

Rotherham commissioners – biographies

Sir Derek Myers (Lead Commissioner)

Derek was the first joint Chief Executive of two London Borough councils, Kensington and Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham (November 2011 – December 2013).

Prior to that, he was Chief Executive of Kensington and Chelsea (2000 – December 2013) and Director of Social Services then Chief Executive at the London Borough of Hounslow. He is also a former chairman of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (2008 – October 2012) and a former non-executive director at the Department of Health. He was knighted in the Queens Honours list in 2014.



He currently combines roles as chairman of the Board of Trustees at Shelter, the Housing and Homelessness Charity; a member of the Board and chairman of Audit at Public Health England and a trustee of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, and the London Think Tank, the Centre for London. He is a non-executive Director for the London Communications Agency.

Stella Manzie CBE (Managing Director Commissioner)



Stella has held a number of senior positions in public service including as chief executive of local authorities including Barking and Dagenham, Coventry, Redditch and West Berkshire; and as a director-general in the UK Civil Service (Scottish Government).

She has worked on improving frontline public services, justice and community safety, economic development and transport and enjoys working in a political environment. For the last two years she has been a consultant and academic in public service and governance issues while having caring responsibilities for her father. She was awarded a CBE in 2007 for services to local government.

Malcolm Newsam (Children's Services Commissioner)

Malcolm is an experienced director of children's services, specialising in delivering rapid improvement in failing services.

He has worked at executive director level in five local authorities, delivering service turnarounds particularly in Peterborough City



Council, Kent County Council, Essex County Council and Bedfordshire County Council. He has acted as Doncaster Borough Council's Programme Director setting up the Doncaster Children's Services Trust and was appointed Children's Social Care Commissioner in Rotherham in October 2014. Malcolm also chairs Knowsley Borough Council's Improvement Board.

Mary Ney (Supporting Commissioner)

Mary recently retired from being Chief Executive of the Royal Borough of Greenwich after 14 years (appointed October 2000). She was assistant inspector to Louise Casey's inspection of Rotherham, where she led the partnership working strand of the inspection.



Mary worked for Southwark Social Services for 12 years as Assistant Director responsible for Finance and Strategy. In 1992 she became Director of Social Services for the London Borough of Harrow with responsibility for Social Services, Housing, Environmental Health and Commissioning Trading Standards.

During her time at Greenwich she oversaw the improvement of council services, major regeneration of the borough and the hosting of three venues for the Olympic and Paralympic Games which led to the Council being awarded 'Council of the Year 2013'.

Julie A Kenny CBE DL (Supporting Commissioner)

Julie founded Rotherham based manufacturing company, Pyronix Limited in 1986 and is now Chairman and Chief Executive of the company and its parent company, Secure Holdings Limited. She is a Commissioner at the UK Commission for Employment and Skills; Board Member of Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (from 2013); Resident Entrepreneur at Connect Gazelles (from 2011); Chairman of the Maltby Learning Trust (from 2010).



In recognition of her contribution to the area's business and industry, Julie was awarded a CBE in 2002 and an Honorary Doctorate from Sheffield Hallam University in 2006. She served as High Sheriff of South Yorkshire from 2012-2013 and won the Engineering and Manufacturing award at the First Women Awards 2012; was the Vitalise Businesswoman of the Year in 2013; and the Private Business Woman in 2014.