

Members' biographies

Professor Dieter Helm CBE (Chair)

Dieter is an economist specialising in utilities, infrastructure, regulation and the environment, and concentrating on the energy, water, communications and transport sectors primarily in Britain and Europe. He is a Professor at Oxford University, a Fellow of New College, Oxford.

Professor Melanie Austen

Melanie is Professor of Ocean and Society at the University of Plymouth. For the last 20 years, she has been leading national and international collaborative and interdisciplinary marine research projects that support sustainable marine policy, environmental management, communities and their wellbeing and industry. She is a member of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), was the first Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK's Marine Management Organisation (MMO), is an Honorary Professor at the University of Exeter medical school, and a member of several Expert Advisory Groups. 10

Professor Ian Bateman OBE

Ian is Professor of Environmental Economics and a Director of the Land, Environment, Economics and Policy Institute (LEEP) at the University of Exeter. His research interests focus on ensuring sustainable wellbeing through the integration of natural and social science knowledge within economic analysis, public and private sector decision making and policy. Particular interests lie in the fields of quantitative analysis, integrated modelling and the valuation of non-market benefits and costs.

Professor Chris Collins

Chris is Chair of Environmental Chemistry at the University of Reading. He is the Natural Environment Research Council Soils Coordinator and chairs Defra's Hazardous Substances Advisory Committee, providing expert advice to the UK government on how to protect the environment and human health via the environment from chemicals. His research focuses on determining the factors controlling exposure of biota to environmental pollution and the role of soil organic carbon in modifying pollutant exposure and the parallels between pollutant and carbon cycling in soils.

Professor Paul Leinster CBE

Paul is Professor of Environmental Assessment at Cranfield University and was formerly Chief Executive of the Environment Agency. He has over 40 years of practical experience in environmental management, science, policy development and regulation. Before joining the EA in 1998, Paul worked in the private sector for a number of major companies. He has a particular interest in translating research into effective policy, regulatory, operational and governance measures and in natural capital and ecosystem service approaches to environmental management. Paul has a number of nonexecutive roles.

Professor Colin Mayer CBE

Colin is Professor of Management Studies, Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford. He is an expert on all aspects of corporate finance, governance and taxation, the regulation of financial institutions and the role of the corporation in contemporary society.

Professor Kathy Willis CBE

Kathy is a Professor of Biodiversity and Head of the Long-term Ecology laboratory at the University of Oxford. She is also the Principal of St Edmund Hall, one of the Colleges that make up the University of Oxford. Until recently, she was the Director of Science at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. She has over 30 years of research experience focusing on modelling and remotely determining important landscapes for biodiversity and ecosystem services across the world. Most recently, she has been leading a research team to develop new and emerging models and technologies to assist land managers in decision making to ensure the best outcomes for business and biodiversity