

Panel Biographies UK City of Culture 2021

Phil Redmond CBE, Panel Chair

Phil Redmond was awarded a CBE in 2003 for *Services to Drama*, as a consequence of his innovatory television career at Mersey Television that included Grange Hill, Brookside and Hollyoaks. Alongside this career Phil, with his wife Alexis, also supported many charitable and public sector causes, becoming major benefactors across Merseyside, including Liverpool John Moores University, National Museums Liverpool and Alder Hey Hospital. Since selling Mersey Television in 2005, they have devoted almost all of their time to public service. Phil was Deputy Chair and Creative Director of Liverpool's year as European Capital of Culture 2008, contributing significantly to Liverpool's renaissance. He was chair of National Museums Liverpool from 2008 to January 2017. He is currently Chair of the Institute of Cultural Capital, a joint initiative between Liverpool John Moores University and the University of Liverpool. He chaired the Independent Advisory Panel to the UK City of Culture programme that awarded the title to Derry-Londonderry in 2013 and Hull for 2017.

Suzanne Bond

Suzanne Bond has a 25-year track record in championing and driving economic development, tourism and culture, leading in both economic policy and strategy development and its delivery on the ground. Suzanne has held senior executive positions with and within European, national, regional and sub regional organisations. She has led on aspects of strategy and delivery in regional economic development, managing multi-disciplined and dispersed teams from within the European Commission in Brussels, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in Whitehall, regional development agencies in France, Spain, Portugal and Scotland, the Government Office for South West in Bristol and the South West Regional Development Agency. More recently, as the Chief Executive of Cornwall Development Company where, between November 2010 and January 2016, she was responsible for the successful delivery of a c. £300m gross programme of economic development in Cornwall. She currently supports private, public and third sector clients in a 121-executive capacity, coaching, mentoring and providing support in organisational development, business planning, stakeholder and project management. Suzanne has been a Non-Executive Director of VisitBritain's England Marketing Board, of Visit England and the VisitEngland Advisory Board since May 2003. Since completing two 3-year terms she has been invited to continue to serve on the VE Board ex-officio since 2009.

Marcus Fairs

Marcus Fairs is a design journalist and entrepreneur. He is founder and editor-in-chief of online architecture and design magazine Dezeen.com. Dezeen is the world's most popular and influential design website and gets over two million unique visits every month. It was named one of the 100 most important forces in global design by both Time magazine and AD magazine, and was named Business Publisher of the Year 2012. It has featured in two separate Apple product launches – the iPhone 5 and the MacBook Pro. Marcus is the first digital journalist to be named an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, which described him as “a major influence on the design world”. In 2013 Marcus was named one of the 100 most influential people in the UK creative industries by The Hospital Club and in 2017 he became the first digital journalist to be awarded an honorary fellowship of the Royal Institute of British Architect. Previously Marcus launched international architecture and

design magazine Icon, which he edited from 2003 to 2006. He has won numerous awards, including BSME Business Web Editor of the Year (2013), Journalist of the Year (2002), Architectural Journalist of the Year (2004) and Launch of the Year for Icon magazine (2003).

Robert (Bob) Palmer

Robert Palmer is an independent consultant who works internationally on a wide range of cultural projects in the areas of cultural policy and strategy, organisational development, festivals and events, the creative economy and issues related to cultural policy and strategy, and the cultural development of cities. He has been very involved in the EU programme of European Capitals of Culture (1985-present) and was the Director of two European Capitals of Culture – Glasgow and Brussels. He was recently the Director of Culture for the Council of Europe based in Strasbourg, France (2006-2013), responsible for work across 50 countries. He advises UNESCO, European Commission, many different European Cultural Institutes and cultural networks on cultural matters.

Barbara Spicer CBE

Barbara Spicer is Chief Executive of Plus Dane - a housing association working across Merseyside and Cheshire which owns and manages more than 13,000 homes. Barbara was Chief Executive of Salford City Council for eight years. At Salford Council she led key developments in the city, including the bid to relocate the BBC to Salford Quays at MediaCity UK, creating a development of international significance. She has also held roles in Westminster as interim Chief Executive of the Skills Funding Agency and in other senior local government positions. She was awarded a CBE in the 2015 New Year Honors list in recognition of her services to education, learning and skills.

Dr Aideen McGinley OBE

Aideen McGinley is Chair of Galway 2020 European City of Culture and a Trustee of the Carnegie UK Trust. She was National Trustee for Northern Ireland on the BBC Trust from 2012-2017. She has 37 years local and central government experience in Northern Ireland being the first woman CEO in local government and subsequently the first woman Permanent Secretary in central government when she took up post, on devolution, to create the first Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and then moved to the Department of Employment and Learning where she was responsible for further and higher education, employment and skills. Reflecting her interest in regeneration she took up a secondment in 2009 as CEO of ILEX, the Urban Regeneration Company for Derry~Londonderry, where she was instrumental in developing the £400mil 10-year regeneration plan, building the symbolic Peace Bridge and successfully securing the inaugural UK City of Culture 2013 title for the city. She has been involved in a variety of roles in the non-profit sector at local and national level which, coupled with her public and private sector experience and her ability to create integrated policy and delivery on the ground, has been recognised in her award of an OBE in the Queen's Millennium Honours List and a honorary degree from the University of Ulster.

Roy McEwan-Brown OBE

Roy McEwan-Brown has worked in arts management for over forty years and was most recently Chief Executive of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra for more than 23 years up to 2016. Before that he was Director of Arts Development at North West Arts Board, Director of the MacRobert Arts Centre, Stirling University and also worked in theatre and at Whitechapel Art Gallery. He has been a member of the Scottish Arts Council, chaired both the Federation of Scottish Theatre and the Glasgow Audience Development Agency and been a long

serving member of the Board of the Association of British Orchestras. Currently he is on the Board of the Traverse Theatre Edinburgh and Sage Gateshead. He was awarded an OBE in 2011 for services to music and in 2017 was appointed a Knight First Class of the Order of the Lion of Finland for Services to Finnish Music.

Lord Rowe-Beddoe

Following a successful international business career, Lord Rowe-Beddoe returned to the UK in 1993 to take up appointment as Chairman of the Welsh Development Agency, in which position he served for nine years. He was invested as a Knight Bachelor for Services to Industry and Development in Wales. He then became Chairman of the Wales Millennium Centre from its construction phase through to its Royal opening in 2005 and thereafter. In 2004 he was appointed President of the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, having previously served as both a Governor and Chairman of the Board. He was created a Life Peer in 2006 and, in 2007, he became Pro-Chancellor of the University of south Wales. Other appointments include Chairman of the Office of National Statistics and Deputy Chairman of the UK Statistics Authority.