

Our Board Of Trustees



The Groundwork CLM Board provides a unique mix of different skills, expertise, personalities and backgrounds. In addition to their extensive knowledge, network of contacts and influence, each board member shares the Groundwork values. Throughout their careers they have demonstrated a commitment to changing lives and changing places. It means that Groundwork CLM is well placed to deliver its plans to develop services and increase the number of people and organisations it works with over the next 5 years.

TRACY FISHWICK

CHAIR

Tracy has a 20 year career in local government leading the employment, skills and social inclusion agendas at both borough and sub-regional levels. She is passionate about social enterprise, charitable work and working with people who want to make a lasting difference. She has founded a number of innovative employment programmes, creating opportunities to connect unemployed people with the labour market in areas of social deprivation. Tracy has been a Board Director, governor and trustee for a range of social enterprises, charities and forums and is a member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, an MA in Strategic HR Management and a Fellow of the Institute of Employability Professionals.

TODD HOLDEN

As the Director for Low Carbon at The Growth Company, Todd is a key member of the GM's Low Carbon Hub, which spearheads and promotes low-carbon investment and growth in local businesses. Having spent over 20 years working in the not for profit sector delivering environmental support to businesses, he is now leading on the company's Social Value initiative, which aims to ensure that economic growth benefits the places where its generated. Todd is Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and Manufacture and a registered environmental practitioner with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment.

SIÂN JAY

Siân has worked in the public and voluntary sectors for over 30 years, with senior roles in equality, cohesion and engagement. She has been a Board Member at Groundwork since 2013 and is currently Director of Social Re:Focus, which helps social organisations to change and grow. Siân has provided training and one-to-one business development support to SMEs, been a guest lecturer at Edge Hill University and is a member of a number of regional networks in the voluntary, private and public sectors.

PAUL ROOTS

Paul works for the Environment Agency as a Senior Advisor on Environment and Business. Paul has advised government on designing sustainability into economic development programmes and has worked alongside northwest local decision makers on the allocation of European structural funds. He is experienced in and passionate about protecting the environment and supporting social enterprise. Whilst at the EA, he has developed environmental projects that provide young people with stepping stones into employment and created opportunities for social enterprises to deliver asset maintenance contracts. Paul joined the Groundwork CLM Board in 2015.

PHILIP HARGREAVES

Philip has over 40 years' experience as a corporate finance specialist and has wide-ranging experience in dealing with SMEs and larger businesses supporting their business development and financing needs. Over his career he has helped businesses to access in excess of £1bn of funding across a broad range of business types and sectors. Prior to the last recession Philip was a key member of a management team which set up a new commercial funder in the UK – developing an external client facing business development team of 20 staff which achieved a £75m commercial loan book within 18 months of start-up. Currently, Philip heads up the Growth Company's (GC) Access to Finance team, which supports SME's based in Greater Manchester and Lancashire who are seeking debt and equity finance to grow their businesses. Philip has experience of developing and managing ERDF contracts and other public sector funds.

HOLLY BALL

Holly is the Head of Careers & Employability at Curious Minds, Arts Council England's Bridge Organisation for the North West. As a qualified Careers Advisor, Holly works strategically with young people, employers and education providers to improve knowledge and understanding of careers across the creative and cultural sector. This involves developing strategic partnerships to improve pathways into creative employment and making national strategies relevant on a local and regional level. Holly's career to date has been dedicated to helping young people fulfil their potential and improve their life chances. In 2010/2011 she managed a Future Jobs Fund programme across the north of England supporting 90 young people in employment opportunities. A passionate advocate for how participation in creative activities can develop skills for life, Holly previously delivered *somewhereto_* across Yorkshire supporting young people to run their own events and activities in under used spaces. Holly is a member of the Career Development Institute and a registered careers professional.

CHRIS WILKINSON

Chris is an Economist at Homes England, an agency of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, working within the organisation's Strategy, Performance and Delivery Unit. An experienced economic researcher, he provides research and insight to inform the organisation's ongoing mission to deliver new homes and communities for England. Before this, Chris spent several years working as a consultant for local and central government clients, and organisations in the private and third sectors. His focus was on supporting clients to learn lessons from the delivery of their projects and programmes, as well as understanding their impact and making the case for new investments. Outside of work, Chris is also a passionate community gardener and allotment holder.