

The Corporation of New College Durham – Corporation Members

Stephen King – Chair

Stephen King has been a member since August 2021 and was appointed Chair of Corporation from 1 January 2024. He is an experienced executive and non-executive director in large sector leading organisations and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing and a member of the Institute of Directors. He enjoyed a 27-year career at leading bus company Go North East, which took him from youth trainee to boardroom as Commercial Director. In addition to his role at New College Durham he is also a non-executive director at Visit County Durham and a Board Trustee at Beamish Museum.

He is a regular speaker on the MBA Business Course at Teesside University Business School on Corporate Social Responsibility and Environment Social Governance and is an SME business mentor on the Captured Programme at Newcastle University Business School. He is also an Enterprise Advisor with the North East Local Enterprise Partnership where he is paired with North Durham Academy to support its career guidance agenda.

Stephen sits on three committees: Finance & Resources, Remuneration and the Search & Governance Committee which he also chairs. He is also the Governor responsible for Careers Education and Guidance.



Andy Broadbent

Andy has been a Member since July 2020 following appointment to the role of Principal and Chief Executive of New College Durham. He has worked in the North East area all of his life and has over 28 years' experience working in the public sector including over 26 years' experience working in Further and Higher Education in senior financial roles. He has Board level experience in Academies and Local Government Pension Funds and is a Fellow Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA).

Andy sits on four Committees: Education Quality, Curriculum & Students, Finance & Resources, Academy Sponsorship and Search & Governance.



Ben Fisher – Vice Chair

Ben has been a Member of the Corporation since 2021 and Vice Chair since July 2023. Ben has over 20 years executive and non-executive experience working for public, private and higher education institutions in the North East of England leading research, innovation and commercial functions.

Ben sits on four committees: Search & Governance, Remuneration, Academy Sponsorship and Finance & Resources which he also chairs.



Chris Patterson

Chris has been a Member of Corporation since September 2022. He is a Chartered Public Finance Accountant and has had a number of roles in education finance for over 13 years, including working as a school business manager, as chair of a school finance committee and most recently as the government's lead for financial reporting and audit of FE colleges. He also has a personal connection with NCD as he undertook part of his accountancy training at the college.

Chris sits on two committees: Finance & Resources and Academy Sponsorship which he also chairs.



Davey Benson

Davey has been a Member since July 2022 and is the Support Staff Governor. He has 35 years industry experience, working in mechanical engineering across a diverse range of sectors, including automation and Engineering subcontract. He has worked as an Apprentice Skills Coordinator within the School of Mechanical Engineering and Built Environment since December 2018. Davey has over 35 years of instructing and assessing military skills in the voluntary youth sector and most recently strategic leadership within the Cadet Forces.

Davey sits on two Committees: Education Quality, Curriculum & Students and Academy Sponsorship. He is also the Governor responsible for Safeguarding.



Allen Eccles

Allen has been a Member of the Corporation since September 2021 and is also a member of the Audit Committee. Allen is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. He specialises in risk management and controls, supporting financial services organisations across the UK and North America. Allen lives in Durham and has a keen passion for helping young people to achieve their potential through education.

Allen sits on the Audit & Risk Committee which he also chairs.



Mark Gomersall

Mark Gomersall has been a member of the corporation since 2021, he is the academic staff governor having been employed at New College Durham since 2013. Following undergraduate study and training in Finance, Mark retrained to become a Maths teacher – with experience in Secondary education prior to working in the Further Education sector.

Mark sits on the Education Quality, Curriculum & Students Committee.



Emily Baxter

Emily Baxter has been a member of the Corporation since November 2022. Emily has a Masters in Applied Management and is a governance and compliance professional who has worked across both public and private sectors and is keen to share knowledge and experiences to support the College and students achieve through education.

Emily is a member of four committees, Education Quality, Curriculum & Students, Audit & Risk, Search & Governance and Remuneration which she also chairs.



Suzanne Slater

Suzanne has been a Member since September 2023. Suzanne has worked as a senior leader within the education sector for the last 16 years working for private training providers, FE colleges and currently as Commercial Director for NCFE, an awarding and end point assessment organisation where she leads all product management, commercial and campaign marketing activity. She has extensive experience across various curriculum areas/sectors, funding streams, recruitment, sales and apprenticeships. She is passionate and committed to the FE sector, which she sees as an enabler to transform lives through high quality learning and development where learners can reach their potential and ambitions.

Suzanne sits on the Education Quality, Curriculum & Students Committee which she also chairs. She is also the Governor responsible for SEND.



Jonathan Hamill

Jonathan has been a Member since March 2024. Jonathan is an accomplished board-level executive leader. He is the Managing Director of an industrial fire prevention and measuring technology company near Newcastle, which is part of an international group; he is also responsible for global marketing. Jonathan is a Masters graduate (Executive Masters in Enterprise Management) of Durham University, a Chartered Manager, Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute and Member of the Institute of Directors. Jonathan lives in Durham with his Wife (a language teacher and school Governor) and three teenage children.



Jonathan sits on the Audit & Risk Committee.

Hailie Warren

Hailie has been a Member since August 2024 and is the Students' Union President. Hailie has been a student at the College for the last 5 years, since her Level 3 and recently completed her BA Hons Film and Media Enterprise. She has acted as course representative for the Foundation and top up of Media and has developed her skills leading up to her appointment of Students' Union President, through organising and working on various film sets/projects, communicating with others and gaining experience being in a leadership role. She also has previous experience of working with children and young people's groups during her time volunteering and filming Spennymoor Youth Theatre Group's live performances for the last few years of her educational life. She also works alongside older peoples' communities, assisting the Rotary Club in Durham in creating a film festival at the college for younger audiences, and films/helps out at the National Pensioner's Convention meetings in Gateshead.



Hailie sits on the Education Quality, Curriculum & Students Committee.

Kathryn McCloghrie

Kathryn has been a Member since August 2024. Kathryn has approximately 30 years' experience in the public sector, working in nuclear decommissioning. Her roles included commercial, business, security, risk and programme management. She is currently leading major programmes and projects at Sellafield. She leads Sellafield's crisis management and is a long-standing member of the emergency duty team for the site. In recognition of this, she was awarded a British Empire Medal for her leadership during the Covid pandemic. Kathryn is also a Board Trustee of Hospice at Home West Cumbria.

Kathryn sits on two committees: Audit & Risk and Education, Quality, Curriculum & Students Committee.



Phillip Pollard

Philip has been a Member since August 2024. Philip has worked in social housing for almost 20 years and currently works for Karbon Homes where he is responsible for Customers and Community Engagement. He has previously held senior positions within the field of social housing with other northeast based providers and local authorities.

Philip has previous board experience with the Chartered Institute of Housing NE, North Tyneside Youth Offending Management Board and both the North Tyneside Children's and Adult's Safeguarding Boards. He is also currently a board member of Willow Burn Hospice and the Durham Cricket Foundation.

Philip sits on the Finance & Resources Committee.



Beatrix Murray-England

Beatrix has been a Member since September 2024 and is a student at the College. She is in her second year of A-Levels at the College, studying Law, History and Psychology. She has volunteered within ESOL at the College and has acted as the FE student representative.

Beatrix sits on the Education Quality, Curriculum & Students Committee.



Rhiannon Hiles

Rhiannon has been a Member since March 2024. Rhiannon is the CEO of Beamish Museum. With over 30 years' experience in the culture sector, Rhiannon has extensive strategic and operational leadership experience within a major visitor attraction. Rhiannon has a curatorial, design and architectural history background and worked in the antiques business and as an artist, prior to working in museums.

Rhiannon is the Vice President of the Association European Open Air Museums, a Director of the Melrose Learning Trust, council member of North East Chamber of Commerce, the National Museum Directors' Council, member of the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions and Association of Independent Museums.

Rhiannon was brought up on a small holding in County Durham, the eldest of 4 children, Rhiannon's parents and grandparents were teachers and her sisters all work in education. Volunteering in the community is very important to Rhiannon and being involved with grassroots opportunities and being part of a local cricket club committee, where her daughter is a member, as well as helping out



with a local primary school. Rhiannon attended New College after sixth form and prior to attending art college and university.

Rhiannon sits on the Education, Quality, Curriculum & Students Committee.

Vacancies

There are currently two vacancies for independent members.

The Chair can be contacted at the College's address:

New College Durham, Framwellgate Moor Campus, Durham, DH1 5ES