

## **Ofgem**

### **Consumer Challenge Group – RIIO ED1**

#### **Biographies and Declaration of Interest**

##### **Linda Lennard**

Linda is Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Consumers and Essential Services at the University of Leicester; and an Associate at George and Lennard Associates which provides independent research and policy consultancy to public sector bodies and voluntary organisations. She is also Vice-Chair of the Public Utilities Access Forum. Linda has extensive experience in consumer policy and regulation at UK and EU levels, particularly in relation to consumer vulnerability and disadvantage.

##### **Sharon Darcy**

Sharon is a Board member of Consumer Focus, the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) and housing association The Hyde Group. She is a member of Ofgem's Low Carbon Network Fund Expert Panel and the Ofwat Customer Advisory Panel and Future Regulation Advisory Panel. Previous roles include Member of the Council of energywatch, Chair of Sutton Borough Citizens Advice Bureaux and member of the London and Southern Committee for the Consumer Council for Water.

##### **Simon Roberts OBE**

Simon is Chief Executive of the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE), a national charity based in Bristol. He is also non-executive Chair of the Board of Triodos Renewables plc, a renewable energy investment fund.

Simon has been an Ofgem Consumer Challenge Group member for previous distribution and transmission price controls and has worked closely with Ofgem on sustainability and consumer insight issues. He serves on advisory boards for research programmes at the Universities of Cardiff, Surrey, Sussex and East Anglia. He is currently advising Defra and the DECC on the setting up of the Rural Community Renewable Energy Fund and DECC on engaging consumers and communities with the Green Deal. He served on the Government's Renewables Advisory Board between 2002 - 2010 where he led work on financing issues and on community engagement. Simon was awarded an OBE in 2011 for his services to renewable energy.

##### *Declaration of Interest:*

CSE is currently working with their local DNO, Western Power Distribution, on a range of projects to improve data analysis, explore social objectives, and distribute small grants to improve the energy efficiency of community buildings.

## **Paul Smith**

Paul is a Director at 4PS – a digital marketing consultancy.

His career started in the consumer arena where he had a 10 year stint at Which? magazine - being Head of Product Research, responsible for product reports in the magazine, covering everything from washing machines to cars. He then moved to provide market intelligence services for businesses in both public and private sectors with Kable - a research consultancy focused on the public sector technology markets and then at Ctrl-Shift, focussing on the changing relationship between consumers and companies through new technologies.

## **Heather Brash**

Heather was the Manager of the local CAB and then Operations Manager of the regional service. She was a member and vice-chair of Scottish Consumer Council (1999-2008) and a non-executive member of NHS Dumfries and Galloway from 2003-2010. She was Convener of Waterwatch Scotland, the consumer representative body for the water industry in Scotland until 2011. Previous roles have included non-exec member of NHS Dumfries and Galloway and vice Chair of the Scottish Consumer Council. Voluntary roles include chairing the local Alcohol and Drugs Support SW Scotland and membership of LEADER Advisory Group.

## **David Leam**

David Leam

David is Executive Director for Infrastructure Policy at London First, a not-for-profit business membership organisation. David joined London First in September 2010 and has a range of experience in infrastructure and regulatory policy across a number of sectors. He was a Special Adviser at the Department for Transport (from 2007-2010) and at Communities and Local Government (2006-07). Prior to this he was a civil servant at HM Treasury (from 2003-06) where he worked in the Productivity Team and then in Housing and Planning on public spending. David has previously worked for the Social Market Foundation think tank and in public affairs.

Declaration of interest:

London First is funded by its members, who include UK Power Networks. A full list of members is published on its website: <http://www.londonfirst.co.uk/>

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