

Deborah Cadman OBE
Chief Executive, Suffolk County Council



Deborah Cadman is Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council. She started her career in 1984 with the London Borough of Newham after gaining her first degree in Politics. Deborah moved to Birmingham City Council in 1987 where she worked with voluntary organisations and on major regeneration projects in the City. During this period she gained a Masters degree in Economics.

In 1996 she moved to Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council as Head of Policy and gained a second Masters Degree in Management. In 1998 she took up a two year secondment with the Department of Environment Transport and the Regions as Local Government Advisor to the Ministerial Team, with specific responsibility for the East of England.

She was appointed the Audit Commission's Best Value Service Lead Inspector for the London region in 2000 and led on several national corporate governance inspections.

In 2003 she took up the post of Chief Executive at St Edmundsbury Borough Council and was interim Chief Executive of Waveney District Council between January and March 2008. She was Chief Executive of the East of England Development Agency between July 2008 and December 2011.

Deborah was awarded an OBE in 2006 for her services to Local Government.

Dr Tim Coulson

Regional Schools Commissioner for the East of England and North-East London



Dr Tim Coulson started his role on 1 July 2014.

Before his appointment, Tim was Director of Education at Essex county council. Earlier in his career he has also:

- taught in London primary schools and was Headteacher at William Tyndale Primary School
- led an Education Action Zone in Lambeth
- been responsible for curriculum and assessment developments at the Qualifications and Assessment Authority
- been National Director of the National Numeracy Strategy

As the Regional Schools Commissioner for the East of England and North-East London he is responsible for making decisions about the academies and free schools in the following local authorities:

- Barking and Dagenham
- Cambridgeshire
- Essex
- Hackney
- Haringey
- Havering
- Newham
- Norfolk
- Peterborough
- Redbridge
- Southend-on-Sea
- Suffolk
- Thurrock
- Tower Hamlets
- Waltham Forest

Ian Gallin

Chief Executive, Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council



Ian is an experienced Local Government leader with a strong track record in building cohesive partnerships and securing economic growth. Since he was appointed Joint Chief Executive of Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury councils in 2012, Ian has driven forward an ambitious West Suffolk shared services agenda which continues to cut costs, generate income and foster political consensus across the two councils.

With the ethos of 'doing things differently' Ian has supported councillors to develop a vision for local government in West Suffolk, focused on prioritising sustainable growth which provides momentum for rapid, radical change; raising West Suffolk's economic and cultural profile.

Ian gained his leadership experience in district, county and unitary authorities, developing an acute awareness of the latent potential in cooperation across tiers and the public sector.

Ian has a strong commercial ethos and acquired his detailed knowledge of working with the private sector through extensive work on alternative service delivery strategies, outsourcing and managing contractual relationships.

Ian has a first Degree in Economic Development and Planning and an MSc in Policy Studies, after starting his career as part of the Youth Training Service (YTS) apprenticeship at Devon County Council.

Laura Butters**Quality and Access Co-ordinator, Early Years and Childcare Service, SCC**

Laura has lived in Suffolk for 22 years moving here after I finished University in 1996. I joined Trading Standards, Suffolk County Council in 1997 and remained there until 2008 at which point I was employed as an Executive Assistant. In 2008 I moved to work in Early Years as a Business Advisor, working with and Advising Early Years providers across Suffolk. I went on to complete the Open University Level 4, Early Years Developing Practice which along with my Business Degree provided the foundation to enable me to achieve the Early Years Professional Status. My role as a Quality and Access Coordinator is diverse and includes line management of a number of Advisors and Workers who work directly with Nurseries, Schools, Preschools and Childminders. Along with two other Coordinators I oversee the sufficiency of childcare places across Suffolk. This involves undertaking work to manage the market to ensure that there are sufficient places for all children to access their free entitlement as well as ensuring sufficiency childcare for working parents.

Kelly Smith**Quality and Access Co-Ordinator, Early Years and Childcare Service, SCC**

Kelly joined SCC in 2006, initially working as part of the Childcare Information Service (now known as the Families Information Service). This was followed by a move in 2008 to the Childcare Support and Development Team. As a Quality and Access Co-Ordinator I have a diverse role, which includes Line Managing Advisors and Workers who provide support to Nurseries, Schools, Pre School and Childminders. Myself, Liz and Laura oversee the sufficiency of childcare places across Suffolk. This involves undertaking work to manage the market to ensure that there are sufficient places for all children to access their free entitlement, as well as ensuring sufficient childcare for working parents. I have a degree in Early Childhood Studies and hold Early Years Professional (EYP) status.

Liz Pitts**Quality and Access Co-ordinator, Early Years and Childcare Service, SCC.**

Liz initially trained as a Nurse at Ipswich Hospital but very quickly realised this wasn't for me. After having my first child I registered as a Childminder, this was my introduction into working in Early Years. I started working for Suffolk County Council in 2000 initially supporting registered childminders to provide Early years Education and over the past 16 years, whilst remaining in the Early Years team I have moved into different roles, driven by new Government policy and agendas. Whilst working I studied for my degree in Early Years and Youth Studies and more recently I gained my Early Years Professional Status. My role includes line management of a team of Advisors and Workers who in turn support and when necessary challenge the diverse registered childcare settings we have in Suffolk. I specifically hold a team portfolio for Sufficiency of Childcare places in Suffolk with an overarching aim to provide childcare for families through managing the childcare market.

Gareth Cheal

Commissioner – Education Place Planning and Admissions, Swindon Borough Council



Gareth was raised in Swindon, where he attended The Ridgeway School, Swindon College then to the University of Wales Institute Cardiff. He came full circle and has been working for Swindon Borough Council since 2003.

During his 13 years with the council, Gareth has become an experienced and approachable Commissioner. He spent the first 5 years of his career as School Admissions Manager. In 2008, he added Education Place Planning into his remit. The role has expanded in breadth, similar to other colleagues, and currently encompasses Early Years funding and planning, SEND provision, SENDIASS and an Outdoor Education Centre in Wales.

Outside public work, Gareth enjoys spending time with his family, football and mountain biking.

Lyn Frith

Strategic Commissioner for SEND 0-25, Swindon Borough Council



Lyn has over 20 years' experience, working for local and national government in the field of children's services and SEND.

She studied at Keele University in the early 1990's and now lives in Gloucestershire with her family and enjoys cooking and gardening in her spare time.

Bruce Hunter

Intelligence Hub Specialist (School Organisation & Place Planning), SCC

Bruce graduated from York University with a Maths degree in the mid-1990s. Following jobs in various fields, from container shipping to NHS Direct, he has worked for Suffolk County Council since 2007. He was initially involved in the School Organisation Review moving schools from a three tier to a two tier structure. For the last four years he has been responsible for forecasting pupil numbers across the county.

Outside work, Bruce enjoys running, walking and going camping.

Joy Stodart

Senior Infrastructure Officer, Suffolk County Council



I am Australian born but have lived and worked in Suffolk for over 30 years. I am a graduate of NSW University and have a couple of post graduate management qualifications as well as being a trained coach within the Suffolk Coaching and Mentoring Partnership.

My early career was in interim management and HR and Training mostly in the public sector until I joined Suffolk County Council in 2001. Since then I have held a number of roles within the Council's Children and Young

People's Services Department and have dealt with issues as wide ranging as service redesign and parental complaints. The most interesting work, however, has been within Suffolk's Schools Infrastructure Team where I have been responsible for managing the School Organisation Review which has seen us move the majority of our schools from a three tier to a two tier structure.

I have two children and spend a lot of my personal time engaged in activities outside – running, walking and rowing a traditional boat in a team of 6. When the weather's poor you'll find me engrossed in a book, listening to music or, more and more these days, cooking for family and friends.

Frank Stockley

Senior Infrastructure Officer, Suffolk County Council



I graduated from Edge Hill University College and taught in a variety of schools in Kent and Suffolk. In 1996 I was appointed as Headteacher of a primary school in Ipswich and was seconded into a senior role within the Local Authority in 2001. Since 2003 I have worked in the Schools Infrastructure Team managing the capital programme. From 2006 onwards I have worked with a number of other colleagues in Suffolk delivering the Schools Organisation Review which changed the school structure across the county resulting in the closure of 40 middle schools.

I am married with two daughters and in my spare time enjoy walking, climbing and golf. I am also a season ticket holder at Ipswich Town Football Club, this ensures that I don't have too much fun at the weekends.

Andrew Rowe
Managing Director, Concertus



Andrew first joined the Architects Department at Suffolk County Council in 1988 as a trainee electrical engineer and took the position as they promised to support him whilst he studied for his degree in Building Services Engineering. Since then, he has risen through the ranks, gaining a reputation as an honest and trustworthy colleague who is well respected as an experienced professional.

Particular highlights of his career have been working on Beaumont Primary School in Hadleigh and the Suffolk Building Schools for the Future programme. He is also proud of his involvement in the Suffolk Biomass Programme that won the Ashden Award (a globally recognised measure for excellence in the field of sustainable energy) in 2010, which was presented by David Attenborough.

Andrew loves the variety in his job and doesn't see a difference between the public and private sectors; 'the nuts and bolts are still the same. A calm, capable and compassionate leader, very little frustrates him. He has a great empathy with his colleagues and loves the results that come from his abilities to encourage, persuade and advise.

Matthew Self
Director, Concertus



As a director, his responsibilities include making sure that the culture of the business is professional and collaborative, ensuring that the 'easy to do business with' mantra is at the heart of all its professions.

However, when he first started his career, the last thing he expected was to be part of the senior team at a Design and Property Consultancy, but his management and motivational skills have enabled him to develop a reputation as a creative, supportive and flexible professional who is more than happy to roll up his sleeves to get the job done. Matthew is particularly proud of the team he has around him and how they have helped to make Concertus the business that it is today. He understands how to get the best out of people and how it is important to work collaboratively with the client, contractor and stakeholders to get the best result.

A project of particular significance to Matthew is Clements Primary School. At Clements, Concertus worked with the client; school and community at all stages of the project to find out what they wanted; supporting, questioning and challenging their thinking. The result was a new school that met and exceeded client and community requirements; winning awards for its design and engagement with the community.

David Osborne
Head of Project Management, Concertus



A strategic thinker with an eye for detail, David is enthusiastic and focused, with experience leading and collaborating on a range of complex multiple stakeholder projects and programmes. He is a natural communicator who's consideration for all parties involved in a project has led to him becoming a well-respected and regarded member of the Concertus team.

David started his career by working in a private architectural practice in Bury St Edmunds, before joining Suffolk County Council in 2007 as an Architectural Designer.

His role as Head of Project Management, not only ensures the smooth running of projects and programmes from inception to completion, but also covers the more intricate schemes that encompass a wider scope of work and meet a more specific client requirement.

Charles Coulson
Assistant Head of Architecture



Charles demonstrates the ability to build new territories, expand opportunities with current client base and create strong relationships with new clients.

Produces stunning architectural design that utilise sustainable construction methods to both reduce the client's carbon footprint and energy outlay, and enhance the building user experience.

Proven ability to progress, impress and deliver exceptionally high standards, Charles is recognised as the established lead on the development of the Bridge SEN School in Ipswich currently under construction resulting in an innovative, sensitive design allowing the pupils to have a stimulating and conducive environment .

Respected as the lead designer for the Moreton Hall High School in Bury St Edmunds with acceptance from multiple consultants after producing consistent design aesthetic and phases generating cohesive development.

Peter Colenutt

Chairman of the Education Buildings and Development Officers' Group
(www.ebdog.co.uk)



Peter joined the Executive Committee in 2011 and became Chairman in 2013. He has thirty years' public sector experience and is Head of Strategic Development for Hampshire County Council and Isle of Wight Council Children's Services Departments, leading on a three year capital programme of around £250m.

Peter works in partnership with the Hampshire County Council Design and Property Services Teams. He is a founding member of the Property Services Cluster, an innovative, collaborative arrangement delivering £500m of school building projects across four authorities in the South East. Peter also works closely with the Department for Education and the Education Funding Agency on planned and future capital investment strategies.

Mike Green

Director of Capital, Education Funding Agency



Mike joined the Education Funding Agency, an executive agency of the Department for Education, as the Director of Capital in April 2012. The Capital Directorate, one of four directorates within the EFA, is responsible for managing the delivery of capital programmes including the Priority School Building Programme and the Property Data Survey Programme.

Before joining the EFA, Mike was the Head of StoreCare at Alliance Boots Property, where he was responsible for all aspects of maintaining the company's estate of more than 3,000 buildings nationwide. He has over 10 years' experience of leading and delivering large multi-site construction programmes for Boots. His work covered many areas including design, funding, procurement, development and aftercare phases of a programme. He also managed a programme to improve facilities management services in Boots shops, turning a struggling area of activity into a success story.

Before joining Boots in 2000, Mike worked for various civil engineering contractors including Mowlem, AF Budge and Thyssen.

Vicky Dare

Leader, Basic Need Team, Education Funding Agency



The Basic Need Team is responsible for DfE's approach to ensuring there are sufficient school places. I joined DfE in September 2004. Since then, I've had a number of policy and finance strategy roles.

Immediately prior to joining the Basic Need Team, I spent four years in Free Schools Group where I was responsible for a multitude of things including running their communications and programme management unit, policy development on university led maths schools, and acting as the DfE's project lead for six schools.

Lara Newman

Board Director of Cleanslate Ltd



Lara is a Board Director of Cleanslate Ltd, a multi-faceted investment and development company operating in London and the South East and active in the private residential, PRS (Private Rental Sector), town centre regeneration, hotel and commercial markets. Lara's career began in development for contractors and property developers, working on residential, regeneration, commercial and education programmes.

For the past five years, Lara has supported the EFA to deliver the free schools programme utilising her extensive public and private sector networks to find sites, execute complex schemes and provide strategic direction to innovative transactions. Lara is currently shadow PropCo's Interim Managing Director.