
The Purpose-Driven Leader: Accelerating social mobility

Tuesday 17th March 2026

Speaker Biographies

Katie Kelly CMgr CCMI, Chair, CMI London Regional Board



Katie is an Associate Partner and Connect Director at Argon & Co, where she works with executive teams to deliver large-scale transformation, organisational change, and capability building across complex, regulated sectors. Her work involves helping organisations design operating models, leadership behaviours, and talent strategies that enable sustainable performance.

Alongside her consulting career, Katie has volunteered with the Chartered Management Institute for over a decade and currently serves as Chair of the CMI London Board, supporting CMI's mission to raise standards of management and leadership across the UK.

Katie is deeply committed to breaking down barriers for marginalised and under-represented groups. She has led and supported a range of practical DEI&B initiatives, including setting up and sponsoring women's networks, and mentoring early-career professionals in the energy sector through POWERful Women and Women in Utilities.

She is an Ambassador for UN Women and has previously served as an Ambassador for Women's Aid, reflecting her long-standing commitment to gender equity, safety, and opportunity.

Joe Wood, Co-Founder Wiseup Networks



Joe Wood is Co-Founder of Wiseup Networks, a social enterprise that partners with employers to deliver mentoring and work experience programmes for young people. Joe and Wiseup Networks are committed to breaking down social barriers to work and believe improving access to industry mentors and quality work experience is a critical success factor in this mission.

Kirsten Lockwood, Head of Professional Development, LABC (Local Authority Building Control)



Kirsten's career in resource planning and development started in 1997 as a Real Time Business Performance Analyst at Vodafone New Zealand. She progressed to Resource Planner before relocating to London in 2004 to take up a new role as Operations and Relationship Manager at the Professional Planning Forum.

In December 2008 Kirsten accepted a newly formed role at LABC which involved running the operational side of LABC's new training arm. She progressed within LABC to Strategic Marketing Consultant in 2015, Development and Engagement Manager in 2016, Learning Development and Communications

Manager in 2017, Head of Learning & Development in 2019 and Head of Professional Development in 2020.

Kirsten is passionate about helping others to achieve their professional potential. Along with her team she's rolled out online learning platforms for LABC, National Fire Chiefs Council and the University of Wolverhampton; developed Level 3, 4, 5 and four level 6 OFQUAL qualifications, the Building Control Surveyor Apprenticeship Standard, the Levy funded BSc Building Control Surveyor Apprenticeship Degree and a catalogue of hundreds of online building control CPD courses.

Kirsten has developed strong working relationships with partners at the Chartered Institute of Building, the University of Wolverhampton, and the Chartered Association of Building Engineers. Her key strengths lie in collaborative project management and leadership. In 2020 Kirsten led the LABC L&D team to win the Silver Award at the international Learning Awards for the category of People Development Programme (Public Sector).

Shelly O'Gilvie, Head of Professional Membership, The 93% Club



Shelly O'Gilvie is Head of Professional Membership at The 93% Club, the UK's largest network for state-educated students and professionals. She leads the growth and engagement of the Professionals community, working with members and employer partners to create access to networks, opportunities, and social capital that support long-term social mobility. Shelly is passionate about building high-trust communities and helping state school talent thrive and lead across every industry.