

## Becoming a high-value forest nation

26 June 2019

### Speakers and Session Chairs

#### Session 1. A High-Value Forest Nation



**Gary Newman, Woodknowledge Wales**

Gary has been chief executive of Woodknowledge Wales since 2016 when it became a, 'for public good membership organisation'. Gary is a construction engineer by training and early career. After completing a wood science masters at Bangor University, Gary established Plant Fibre Technology and has been instrumental in taking a number of bio-based products from concept to market. Gary is also a founder and Executive Chair of the Alliance for Sustainable Building Products ([www.asbp.org.uk](http://www.asbp.org.uk)).



**Des O'Toole. Commercial Business Development Manager. Coillte. Ireland**

Coillte's vision is, "to become the best Forestry and Land Solutions company in Europe by 2025" and in order to achieve this that means fundamentally transforming the company into a highly profitable and cash generating business. As an accomplished senior business development professional, with a strong engineering and project management background, Des is ideally qualified to help achieve this. Des has a background spanning a range of technical, business development, operational, sales & marketing roles in the construction, engineered wood panel board and renewable energy sectors.

#### Session 2. Forestry Innovation and Expansion



**Tabitha Binding. University Engagement Manager, TRADA.**

Tabitha joined TRADA as the University Programme Manager in 2018 after successfully delivering a number of projects for Woodknowledge Wales. Her positivity, tenacity and expertise in timber supply-chain development, helped WKW provide the practical knowledge, advice and support to Powys County Council – enabling the adoption of the first UK Wood Encouragement Policy. To further her knowledge in construction design and energy efficiency, Tabitha qualified as a Passivhaus consultant. Tabitha is a WKW board member and Woodland Heritage trustee.

WoodBUILD 2019 is sponsored and supported by:



## Becoming a high-value forest nation

### Speakers and Session Chairs

26 June 2019



**John Healey. Professor of Forest Sciences, Bangor University, UK**

John's expertise lies in the scientific basis of forest management and ecosystem services. His research studies include sustainable forest management; silviculture; harvesting impacts; soil science (including soil and water conservation); forest establishment, restoration, resilience and degradation; climate change mitigation and adaptation; forest health and tree disease; forest ecology, conservation and monitoring; restoration of post-industrial land; applications of economics and life cycle assessment to forest management and value chains



**Andy Leitch. Scottish Forestry**

Andy has a number of roles in the forestry and timber sector. He works for Scottish Enterprise to provide support to Timber industry leaders to identify key strategic threats and opportunities and enable growth in the sector. Andy also manages the Timber Development Programme at Scottish Forestry and is the specialist analyst for tree breeding and timber.



**Graham Ormondroyd. BioComposites Centre, Bangor University**

Graham completed his PhD (Wood Science) at Bangor University, UK and has been the Head of Materials Research at the BioComposites Centre for 8 years. In that time he has written many proposals, papers and undertaken commercial works in all aspects of biomaterials science. Graham has over 100 publications including peer reviewed papers, conference proceedings, book chapters and edited books, he continues to publish regularly. Graham is a Fellow of the Institute of Materials Minerals and Mining, a member of the International Research Group on Wood Protection and Chair of the Wood Technology Society.

WoodBUILD 2019 is sponsored and supported by:



## Becoming a high-value forest nation

26 June 2019

### Speakers and Session Chairs

### Session 3. Zero Carbon Housing by 2030



**Sarah Lang-Gibbens Head of Commercial Performance, Homes and Places, Welsh Government**

Sarah is responsible for commercial activity relating to building social homes in Wales using off-site manufacturing. She is also regional housing manager for north Wales and manages the billion pound capital investment programme to bring social housing in Wales up to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard.



**Fionn Stevenson. Professor of Sustainable Design. The University of Sheffield**

Fionn is passionately interested in an underpinning ecological approach to sustainable design in order to address climate change. Fionn studied architecture at the Universities of Cambridge and Sheffield before working in practice as a community architect in Lancashire and Scotland. Her interest lies in the deep tacit knowledge that people have in relation to buildings and the means of accessing and utilising this in design through occupancy feedback in order to make buildings work better. A key aspect of this is reducing unnecessary resource consumption in buildings at every level and finding new ways to do this.



**Callum Hill. JCH Industrial Ecology**

Callum was a senior lecturer in wood science at Bangor University before taking up the post as Professor of Materials Science at the Centre for Timber Engineering, Edinburgh. Callum is now a director of his consultancy (JCH Industrial Ecology Ltd), a Visiting Researcher at the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research and a Global Expert at the InnoRenew Centre of Excellence in Slovenia. He has authored over 180 research papers, six book chapters and two text books (Wood Modification: Chemical, Thermal and Other Processes – John Wiley and Sons; An Introduction to Sustainable Resource Use – Routledge).

WoodBUILD 2019 is sponsored and supported by:



## Becoming a high-value forest nation

26 June 2019

### Speakers and Session Chairs



**Eilidh Forster, Bangor University**

Eilidh has a background in engineering and business development. In 2017 she was awarded a NERC funded PhD studentship at Bangor University to research the environmental sustainability of forestry value chains. Using a combination of carbon modelling and life cycle assessment (LCA), Eilidh is evaluating different forest management practices and timber product uses, with a particular focus on the construction sector.

### Session 4. The BIG Debate



**Christiane Lellig, Campaign Director, Wood for Good**

Christiane is campaign director for [Wood for Good](#), the timber industry's campaign to promote the use of wood in design and construction. Working for a sustainable future is what motivates Christiane, driven by a belief that the wellbeing of people and the planet are inextricably linked. A specialist in behaviour change and sustainability communications, Christiane has led national research programmes and campaigns in various fields, ranging from environmental concerns to labour and social justice issues since 1999.

WoodBUILD 2019 is sponsored and supported by:

