



# Creating an environmentally sustainable health and care system together

BLMK ICS Green Plan – refresh 2025  
Seminar - 15 November 2024



# Speaker Profiles

# Alistair Strathern MP

Alistair Strathern grew up in Bedfordshire and is the Labour MP for Hitchin. In 2024 he was appointed Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for the Environment.

Alistair has worked on climate risk for the Bank of England and campaigned to protect nature in his constituency. First elected in the Mid-Bedfordshire by-election of 2023, Alistair has recently been re-appointed as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rachel Reeves.

On appointment to the Chair of the APPG, he said “We need to see action now on the climate and nature crises to deliver benefits to people across the country. Cheap green energy, clean air, and a thriving natural world will all contribute to a secure, liveable future. The journey to net zero will involve everyone and I look forward to working across parties to deliver this.”



# Rima Makarem

Rima has been the Independent Chair for the BLMK Integrated Care System since June 2020.

She trained as a scientist before going on to hold senior roles within the global pharmaceutical sector and has 15 years' experience working at board level in the NHS.

Rima is also Chair of the Sue Ryder charity, Chair of Queen Square Enterprises Ltd (an independent healthcare provider based in London), a Lay Council member for the General Pharmaceutical Council, and a Trustee of LifeArc.

Previous roles include Senior Independent Director & Audit Chair of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and Audit Chair and External Commissioner at the House of Commons Commission, working closely with the Speaker and the Leader of the House.



# Vineeta Manchanda

Vineeta is Non-Executive member of BLMK ICB, Chair of the ICB's Audit & Risk Assurance Committee and the ICB's Non-Executive Green Champion, chairing BLMK's Environmental Sustainability System Leadership Group.

She brings strong commercial, change management and financial skills from her executive career in investment banking where she led international teams with responsibility for delivering profitability, and grew businesses through joint ventures, mergers and organic growth.

She has held non-executive and committee chair roles over the last ten years in the public and voluntary sectors including at Waltham Forest Clinical Commissioning Group, local authorities, adult and children's social care, and education.



# Martin Baxter

Martin Baxter is the Deputy CEO at the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment ([IEMA](#)), working in the UK and internationally to accelerate the transition to a sustainable future and support people in the development of sustainability skills and green careers.

Martin has national and international experience in developing capacity for effective and widespread implementation. Martin heads the UK delegation to the International [Organisation for standardisation \(ISO\)](#) on environmental management and chairs the ISO environmental management systems committee of 100 countries.

He is also Vice Chair of the European Standards [CEN/CENELEC](#) Strategic Advisory Body on the Environment.

Martin is a Board member of IEMA, the [Society for the Environment \(SocEnv\)](#) and the [Broadway Initiative](#).



# Dr Tim Simmance

Tim is BLMK Integrated Care Board's Associate Director of Sustainability and Growth, coordinating the ICS's "fourth pillar" to help the NHS support social and economic development.

After working as a researcher of green chemistry, Tim has spent 15 years in the NHS, predominantly in continuous improvement roles. With a PhD in Chemistry and MSc in Health and Public Leadership, Tim is also a board member of the Bedfordshire Local Nature Partnership, and has previously been the Regional Net Zero lead at NHS England, and Head of Improvement and Transformation at Cambridge University Hospitals.

Bringing together these skill sets and experience, Tim is now driving BLMK's ambitions to be a net zero, sustainable health and care system, supporting preventative, efficient, resilient, and high-quality healthcare that reduces its impact on the environment.



# Dr Philip Tamuno

Dr Philip Tamuno is currently the Head of Sustainability at Queen Mary, University of London and Joint Head of Sustainability and Net Zero at Barts Health and Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS trusts. He is a Chartered Environmentalist and a Fellow and accredited CPD Course trainer for [IEMA](#).

Philip has over 20 years' experience of teaching and research in environmental biology and assessment, environmental and energy management and co-ordinating evidence-based good environmental sustainability outcomes.

He develops strategies and plans for environmental sustainability, sustainable procurement, net zero, decarbonisation and sustainable development, ensuring alignment with corporate vision, while optimising environmental opportunities and enhancing organisational resilience to current and emerging environmental challenges.



# Jeremy Williams

Jeremy Williams is an author, activist and climate educator, who recently joined [Let's Go Zero](#) as a climate action advisor to schools.

Author of [Climate Change is Racist \(Icon, 2021\)](#) and co-author of [The Economics of Arrival \(Policy Press 2019\)](#). A trained journalist, Jeremy writes [The Earthbound Report](#), and is a freelance writer for RSPB, Oxfam, BBC, Tearfund and WWF.

He lives in Luton but grew up in Madagascar and Kenya, which gave him an early interest in the environment, poverty and inequality, and what connects them.

Jeremy has been involved in a range of environmental actions including co-founding the [Post Growth Institute](#), [Edible High Town](#), [Zero Carbon Luton](#) and Transition St Albans.

He has helped to organise community repair days, nature trails, tree planting, school growing spaces, and most recently been involved in training and mentoring teachers in developing climate action plans for schools.

