

Joint meeting of the Cross Party Groups on Wellbeing Economy, Circular Economy and Social Enterprise

Friday, 6th of December 2024, 11:00-12:30, online

Meeting topic: Building a democratic Wellbeing Economy in Scotland

Meeting will be held online on Zoom.

Please register [here](#) if you would like to attend the meeting.

Agenda

1 Welcome

Welcome from Maggie Chapman MSP, co-convenor of the CPG on Wellbeing Economy

2 Panel discussion: Building a democratic Wellbeing Economy in Scotland

The main part of the meeting will consist of a panel discussion with expert speakers on the topic, chaired by Maggie Chapman MSP. Each speaker will introduce their perspective in a short presentation which will be followed by a Q&A session with questions from the chair and the audience. The speakers are:

Professor Robert McMaster

Robert McMaster is Professor of Political Economy in the Adam Smith Business School at the University of Glasgow. He joined the University of Glasgow in 2007 as Senior Lecturer following sixteen years in the Department of Economics at the University of Aberdeen. Robert is also an Honorary Professor at the University of Sydney and has held visiting positions at several institutions abroad. From 2005-2018, he co-edited the journal "Review of Social Economy". He has also co-authored the books "Health Care Economics" and "Social Economics: Critical Concepts in Economics" and has published numerous journal articles.

Neil McInroy

Neil is the Global Lead for Community Wealth Building at The Democracy Collaborative. Based in USA, The Democracy Collaborative are a leading think, do and change tank, working to grow the democratic economy. He also Chairs of Economic Development Association Scotland (EDAS) - the go to body for all individuals and organisations with an interest in Scotland's economic development. He also recently chaired a review into Inclusive and Democratic Business Models in Scotland.

For 20 years till 2021 he was the Chief Executive of the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES)- the UK's national organisation for progressive local economies and was Managing Director of New Start Magazine.

Neil is driven by a desire and passion to build an economy that is decarbonised, democratic, just and fair.

Susan Pinkney

Susan is head of research and insight at Carnegie UK. She is responsible for managing Carnegie UK's research function and research outputs and is new to the role having recently returned to Scotland after 14 years in London. Carnegie UK is an independent foundation with a mission to create a society where everyone can thrive. Carnegie UK works to improve collective wellbeing in the UK by influencing public policy and practice.

Susan has worked in social and market research for over 25 years in research agencies, predominantly working for the UK and Scottish Governments evaluating behaviour change campaigns and was more recently the head of research at both the Charities Aid Foundation and the UK's Publishers Association.

Susan is going to give a brief overview of Carnegie UK's recent findings from the Life in the UK survey.

Lucinda Broadbent

Lucinda Broadbent is a worker/member and co-founder of media co-op, a workers co-operative based in Glasgow. 2024 is media co-op's 20th birthday. The workers own and run the company.

Their work is communication for social justice: creating media for the Third and Public sectors, animation, film, graphic design, and digital comms.

In November 2024 media co-op won Scotland's first ever Impact Award for Inclusive and Democratic Businesses.

Michael Cook

Michael is CEO at Circular Communities Scotland, a network membership organisation, dedicated to supporting the establishment of a thriving circular economy in Scotland. Circular Communities Scotland supports and represents over 250 repair, reuse and recycling charities and social enterprises who help promote and create social and environmental justice in their communities across Scotland. Michael recently returned from an eight-month career break to lead the organisation again.

Michael started his career in consulting and finance with PricewaterhouseCoopers before moving to Prudential in IT Audit and then Head of Change Management. Over the last 15 years Michael has worked in hands-on leadership positions in the charitable sector, joining Circular Communities Scotland (then CRNS) as CEO in 2018. Michael is passionate about seeing others develop to achieve their potential and is highly motivated to deliver positive change in purpose-driven organisations. In his spare time, Michael is a keen member of his local Mountain Rescue team and a keen wildlife photographer.

3 Next steps and close of the meeting

Closing remarks by the chair