

Tomorrow's Democracy  
*5th November 2018, The Riverfront, Newport*

# Delegate Pack



Dear Delegate,

Thank you for registering for our Tomorrow's Democracy conference being held on 5 November 2018. We are delighted to welcome you all to Newport for what promises to be an interesting event, with a brilliant line-up of speakers and some very challenging topics up for debate.

The event is being held at the fantastic Riverfront Theatre venue in the centre of our city. This is just a short walk away from the Westgate Hotel, scene of the Newport Rising of 1839 which was the last significant armed uprising on British soil, and an important step in the creation of our democracy today. We Newportonians are rightly proud of our Chartist heritage. Every year we commemorate the events of 4 November 1839, and this year will see the first ever Newport Rising festival taking place over the whole weekend ([www.newportrising.co.uk](http://www.newportrising.co.uk)).

Immediately following on from the Chartist commemorations, the Tomorrow's Democracy conference aims to explore where democracy is today, and where it is headed next. The causes which Newport's Chartist movement fought for have become, in large part, a reality for people in Britain and in democracies around the world. With the crisis that liberal democracy is now facing from rising populism, there has never been a more important time for insightful discussion and debate around how democracy is working, at the national and local level, and what might need to change in the future to ensure its survival. And where better place to hold those debates than here, in Newport, where the memory and spirit of the Chartists lives on.

I hope you find this to be an interesting and informative day.

Councillor Debbie Wilcox

Leader of Newport City Council

- 08:45 **Registration, refreshments, and networking**
- 09:45 **Welcome Remarks**  
Cllr. Debbie Wilcox, Leader, Newport City Council
- 09:50 **Keynote Address**  
Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive, RSA
- 10:15 **Can Deliberative Democracy Inspire Greater Participation in Politics?**  
Panelists:  
Tim Hughes, Director, Involve  
Ed Hammond, Director of Local Accountability Centre for Public Scrutiny  
Reema Patel, Programme Manager, The Nuffield Foundation
- 11:00 **Refreshments Break**
- 11:30 **Keynote Address**  
Chloe Smith MP, Minister for the Constitution
- 12:00 **Keynote Address**  
Paul Mason, Writer, Broadcaster and Film-maker
- 12:15 **Is Global Democracy dying?**  
Panelists:  
Paul Mason, Journalist, Author, and Political Commentator  
Prof. Roger Eatwell, Author of 'National Populism'  
Prof. Eric Kaufmann, Birkbeck, University of London  
Emily Mansfield, Country Forecast Director, The Economist Intelligence Unit
- 13:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00 **Keynote Address**

Prof. Bobby Duffy, Director of Policy Institute, Kings College London

14:20 **Is the internet poisonous to democracy?**

Panelists:

Prof. Bobby Duffy, Director of Policy Institute, Kings College London

Carl Miller, Research Director CASM, Demos

Ros Taylor, LSE Truth, Trust & Technology Commission

15:00 **Would more diversity in politics lead to increased political engagement?**

Panelists:

Sam Smethers, Chief Executive, Fawcett Society

Dr Peter Allen, Author: The Political Class: Why it matters who our politicians are

Jess Blair, Director, ERS Cymru

15:45 **Refreshments Break**

16:15 **Is Devolution the answer to taking back control?**

Panelists:

Prof. Colin Copus, Professor of Local Politics, De Monfort University

Cllr Debbie Wilcox, Leader, Newport City Council

17:00 **Closing Plenary**

Cllr. Debbie Wilcox, Leader, Newport City Council

Phillip Blond, Director, ResPublica

## **Chloe Smith MP, Minister for the Constitution**

Chloe Smith MP was appointed as Minister for the Constitution at the Cabinet Office on 9 January 2018.

She was elected as the Conservative MP for Norwich North in 2009 and was appointed Economic Secretary to the Treasury in October 2011 and from September 2012 to October 2013 she served as Parliamentary Secretary for the Cabinet Office. In 2017, Chloe was appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Before entering Parliament, Chloe worked for international consultancy firm Deloitte, advising private businesses, government departments and public bodies.

## **Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive, RSA**

Matthew Taylor has been Chief Executive of the RSA since November 2006. During this time the Society has substantially increased its output of research and innovation, has provided new routes to support charitable initiatives of its 29,000 Fellows and has developed a global profile as a platform for ideas. In July 2017 Matthew published the report 'Good Work'; an independent review into modern employment, which was commissioned by the UK Prime Minister.

Prior to this appointment, Matthew was Chief Adviser on Political Strategy to the Prime Minister. Previous roles include Labour Party Director of Policy and Deputy General Secretary and Chief Executive of the IPPR, the UK's leading left of centre think tank.

Matthew is a regular media performer having appeared several times on the Today Programme, The Daily Politics and Newsnight. He had written and presented several Radio Four documentaries and is a panellist on the programme Moral Maze. He has posted over a thousand times on his RSA blog site and tweets as @RSAMatthew.

## **Tim Hughes, Director, Involve**

Tim is director of Involve and an expert in public participation and open governance. He joined Involve in 2011 and took over as director in January 2017. Since then, Tim has led Involve to embark on a radical new strategy to put people at the heart of decision-making in the UK.

During his time at Involve, Tim has advised national, devolved and local governments in the UK on designing and facilitating effective participatory processes. He has overseen and co-lead facilitated large deliberative processes, including the Citizens' Assembly on Brexit and Citizens' Assembly on Social Care. He has led the UK Open Government Network, including through developing two open government action plans with the UK government. He has worked with multilateral organisations - including the OECD, Council of Europe and Open Government Partnership - to improve the practice of participation and open government globally. And he has researched and written on topics including public participation, open government and democratic reform.

Before joining Involve, Tim was a researcher for the National School of Government's Sunningdale Institute. He worked on research projects covering public sector innovation, governance and accountability, the evaluation of leadership development, and citizen-centred public services.

## **Reema Patel, Programme Manager, The Nuffield Foundation**

Reema Patel works for the Nuffield Foundation on technology, public deliberation and digital society. She is part of the programme team designing and developing the Ada Lovelace Institute. She was the Programme Manager for the RSA's Citizens Economic Council, which made the case for a deliberative democracy in the field of economics, and successfully influenced the Bank of England to adopt a number of its recommendations. In the past Reema has also worked with participation and democracy think-tank Involve, on government public dialogue programme Sciencewise. She has consulted for tech-based community engagement platform Nextdoor.com and international experts in public deliberation, the Danish Board of Technology Foundation. In her spare time she is a local councillor, a founding trustee of a community run library, and a keen runner.

## **Professor Roger Eatwell, Author of National Populism**

Roger Eatwell is Emeritus Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Bath. His main research focus is European and American fascism, contemporary extremism and populism, which he does not see as fascist (though some parties have partly fascist roots). A further major strand linking his work is the argument that 'national populism' is not simply a 'flash' or 'protest' movement, but reflects views deeply held by many in the electorate who feel neglected, even looked down on, by mainstream elites.

## **Carl Miller, Research Director, CASM, Demos**

Carl is the Research Director of the Centre for the Analysis of Social Media (CASM) at Demos.

He is interested in how social media is changing society, and how researching it can inform important decisions. This includes:

- Digital politics and digital democracy
- Cybercrime, and the hacking community
- Cyber-bullying, hate crime, misogyny and abuse online
- Information warfare and online disinformation
- 'Fake news', digital and citizen journalism
- Automated decision-making, Internet governance and digital addiction
- Building new methods and technology to study social media data

He researches and writes widely on these issues, including for Wired, New Scientist, the Sunday Times, the Telegraph and the Guardian. He is a Visiting Research Fellow at King's College London.

His first book is *The Death of the Gods: The New Global Power Grab*. An examination of the new centres of power and control in the twenty-first century, it was published by Penguin RandomHouse in August 2018.



## **Ros Taylor, LSE Truth, Trust & Technology Commission**

Ros Taylor is Research Manager for the LSE Truth, Trust & Technology Commission, based in the Media Policy Project within the Department of Media and Communications at LSE. The Commission works to identify the structural causes of media misinformation and set out a new policy framework. She is also co-editor of the LSE Brexit blog and has a particular interest in how politics is communicated in mainstream and social media, particularly during elections.

Previously the editor of the LSE-based and JRCT-funded Democratic Audit UK, she contributed the two media chapters to its 2017 Audit of UK Democracy and writes, edits and broadcasts regularly on a freelance basis. Between 1998 and 2012 she was a journalist at the Guardian, specialising in politics, and has also worked at the BBC.

## **Dr Peter Allen, The Political Class: Why It Matters Who Our Politicians Are**

Dr Peter Allen is a Reader in Comparative Politics and a Deputy Director of the Institute for Mathematical Innovation at the University of Bath. He has published his research on political representation in a range of national and international academic journals. His first book, 'The Political Class: Why It Matters Who Our Politicians Are', was published by Oxford University Press in April 2018.

## **Jess Blair, Director of ERS Cymru**

Jess Blair is Director of the Electoral Reform Society in Wales, which campaigns for better democracy. Their work over the last year has focussed on increasing political engagement, diversity and political education.

Previously Jess was Policy and Projects Manager at the Institute of Welsh Affairs, a leading Welsh think tank where she was also Acting Director during 2016. Prior to that Jess worked in the National Assembly for Wales, writing policy for a political party. She also worked in Brussels with Regional Governments on lifelong learning policy. Jess holds a Masters in Welsh Government and Politics from the Wales Governance Centre at Cardiff University.

## **Phillip Blond, Director, ResPublica**

Phillip is an internationally recognised political thinker and social and economic commentator. He bridges the gap between politics and practice, offering strategic consultation and policy formation to governments, businesses and organisations across the world. He founded ResPublica in 2009 and is an academic, journalist and author. Prior to entering politics and public policy, he was a senior lecturer in theology and philosophy, teaching at the Universities of Exeter and Cumbria. He is the author of Red Tory (Faber and Faber 2010), which sought to redefine the centre ground of British politics around the ideas of civil association, mutual ownership and shared enterprise.

His ideas have strongly influenced the agenda around devolution and public services, and have helped to redefine British and international politics. Phillip's recent reports, such as Restoring Britain's City States: Devolution, public service reform and local economic growth (2015), The Missing Multipliers: Devolution to Britain's Key Cities (2015), and Devo Max – Devo Manc: Place-based public services (2014), have driven policy change in city deals and health devolution.

He has written extensively in the British and foreign press including The Guardian, The Independent, The Observer, the Financial Times, Prospect, the New Statesman and The New York Times. As a renowned speaker and communicator, Phillip is a frequent broadcaster, appearing on the BBC and Sky as well as in foreign media. Through both his writing and speaking, he argues for a new economic and social politics based around free association and group formation, new forms of capitalisation and market entry.

## **Professor Bobby Duffy, Director of Policy Institute, Kings College London**

Bobby is Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Policy Institute at King's. Prior to joining King's, Bobby was Managing Director of the Ipsos MORI Social Research Institute, which is a team of around 230 researchers in London, Manchester, Edinburgh and Brussels, and Global Director of the Ipsos Social Research Institute, across around 30 countries.

He has worked across most public policy areas in his career of 25 years in policy research and evaluation, and has been seconded to the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit and the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at the LSE. Bobby also sits on several advisory boards for think tanks and universities.

His book, 'The Perils of Perception – why we're wrong about nearly everything', was published by Atlantic books in September, drawing on a unique set of global studies on how people misperceive things like immigration levels, crime rates, obesity levels and many more key social realities.

## **Ed Hammond, Director of Local Accountability, Centre for Public Scrutiny**

Ed is a Director of CfPS and leads on programmes, projects and policy developments relating to promoting and improving scrutiny and governance in local government. Ed leads CfPS's work on devolution and has been influential in shaping national thinking on the scrutiny elements of the new Devolution Act. In 2015/16 he worked with five areas in England to support them in developing fit for purpose devolved scrutiny and governance arrangements. He recently authored the well-received think piece "Devo why, devo how?".

Ed is responsible for the LGA-funded local government scrutiny support programme and has a wealth of experience of supporting individual councils seeking to ensure that their governance arrangements are both fit for purpose, and that they "add value" by making a positive, tangible contribution to local people's lives. He also delivers national training for councillors and officers on subjects like performance management, questioning skills, the role of scrutiny and governance and major change and the use of evidence and data.

He led on CfPS's "Accountability Works" campaign, which aimed to act on the need to meaningful accountability, transparency and involvement as the heart of good governance. More recently, he led work with nine councils to review their scrutiny support to major transformation and commissioning programmes, culminating in the 2015 publication.

## **Prof Eric Kaufmann, Professor of Politics, Birkbeck College, University of London**

Eric Kaufmann is Professor of Politics at Birkbeck College, University of London. He is the author of *Whiteshift: Immigration, Populism and the Future of White Majorities* (Penguin, October 2018). He has also written *Changing Places: mapping the white British response to ethnic change* (Demos 2014), *Shall the Religious Inherit the Earth: demography and politics in the twenty-first century* (Profile 2010), *The Rise and Fall of Anglo-America: the decline of dominant ethnicity in the United States* (Harvard 2004) and two other books. He is co-editor, among others, of *Political Demography* (Oxford 2012) and editor of *Rethinking Ethnicity: Majority Groups and Dominant Minorities* (Routledge 2004). An editor of the journal *Nations & Nationalism*, he has written for *Newsweek International*, *Foreign Affairs* and *Prospect* magazines. He may be found on twitter at @epkaufm and on the web at [www.sneps.net](http://www.sneps.net).



## **Sam Smethers, Chief Executive, Fawcett Society**

Sam joined Fawcett in August 2015 as Chief Executive. Prior to that she was the Chief Executive of Grandparents Plus for over six years. Sam is no stranger to equalities and gender issues having worked for both the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Equalities and Human Rights Commission. She also served as a Fawcett trustee between 2007 and 2010, was a trustee of Gingerbread for seven years and has nine years' experience working in Parliament. Sam is passionate about equal representation, valuing and sharing care and closing the gender pay gap. She has made a big impact already and focused on creating a brilliant team, driving forward an intersectional approach to our work and devising an exciting programme to mark 100 years of women's suffrage. Sam has four children so no time for much else.

## **Professor Colin Copus, Professor of Local Politics, De Montfort University**

Colin Copus is an Emeritus Professor of local politics at the Department of Politics and Public Policy, De Montfort University and a Visiting Professor at the University of Ghent. His academic interests are central-local relationships and the constitutional status of local government, devolution, localism, local party politics, local political leadership and the changing role of the councillor. Colin has worked closely with policy-makers and practitioners in central and local government. He was an advisor to the Political and the Constitutional Reform Committee the Communities and Local Government Committee on its inquiry into the role of the councillor and is currently the academic advisor to two All Party Parliamentary Groups. He has published widely in academic journals.

Colin's latest book is entitled: In Defence of Councillors, published by Manchester University Press. Colin was the editor Local Government Studies 2001 to 2013

He has also served as a councillor on a London Borough council, a county and a district council and three parish councils.

## **Emily Mansfield, Country Forecast Director, The Economist Intelligence Unit**

Emily Mansfield is Country Forecast Director at The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), the business intelligence arm of The Economist Group. She is a contributor to the EIU's flagship annual Democracy Index, and a Europe analyst in the Country Analysis department, specialising in the politics and economics of France, Germany and the Czech Republic.

She has presented on how the EIU measures democracy at the European Parliament in Strasbourg and for Transparency International in Brussels. In addition to analysing current trends in European politics, she focuses on the long-term structural drivers of economic growth. Her white paper on ranking technological readiness, entitled Preparing for disruption, was published in June 2018.

## **Councillor Debbie Wilcox – Leader of Newport City Council and Leader, Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)**

Cllr Wilcox joined the Council in 2004, and represents the City's Gaer ward. She was elected as Leader of the Council at a meeting of the City's Labour group in May 2016 and re-elected Leader in May 2017 after winning the local government elections with a 31 seat majority.

She is a graduate of the University of London's Central School of Speech and Drama, and holds an MA from the University of Wales, Cardiff.

Cllr Wilcox is a former secondary school teacher, and left her role as Head of Performing Arts at Hawthorn High School in Pontypridd in order to focus on her political career. She has also taught in Newport's former Hartridge High School, and was the Principal Examiner for A level Theatre Studies for the whole of the UK with the AQA examination board.

Previous roles Cllr Wilcox has held at Newport City Council include the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture, as well as the Cabinet Member for Education and Young People. She was also previously Chair of the Council's Labour group. She has been the SE Wales List candidate for Labour for the past two Assembly elections and serves on Labour's Welsh Executive Committee. She has recently been elected as the first female Leader of the Welsh Local Government Association and is the Education spokesperson.

Cllr Wilcox lives in Newport and frequently supports local activities and events. Her hobbies are arts focussed, and she regularly attends productions at the Royal National Theatre in London and the RSC in Stratford. She served for two terms as a member of the Arts Council of Wales and is currently a Board member of Newport Live who run the sport and arts facilities in Newport.

## **Paul Mason - Writer, Broadcaster and Film-maker.**

As Economics Editor for Channel 4 News from 2013-2015 he covered stories as varied as the Gaza war and the Edward Snowden revelations, as well as mainstream macro-economics and politics. Between 2001 until 2013 Paul worked on BBC2's Newsnight programme, firstly as Business & Industry Correspondent, and then as Economics Editor. He covered stories as diverse as the corporate scandals of Enron and Worldcom, Hurricane Katrina, gang violence in Liverpool, the social impact of mobile phones in Africa, and the rise of Aymara nationalism in Bolivia.

Paul Mason has written a series of books covering contemporary economics and politics, including 'PostCapitalism: A Guide to Our Future'(2015), in which he discusses the threat posed to capitalism by the digital revolution - its potential to reshape our notions of work, production and value; and to destroy an economy based on markets and private ownership. In 'Why It's Kicking Off Everywhere', he shone a light on the new activism, from cyber-protest in the Arab Spring to the Occupy movement. In 'Live Working Or Die Fighting: How The Working Class Went Global', he examined the epic history of the labour movement; and in Meltdown he explored 'the age of greed'.

His creative work includes the novel Rare Earth (2009) the televised play Why It's Kicking Off Everywhere (Young Vic 2017), the play Divine Chaos of Starry Things (White Bear, London, 2017) and Astoria, a short fictional film about the refugee crisis in Hungary, (2016). His next book is Clear Bright Future: A radical defence of the human being, published by Allen Lane in May 2019.