

Biographies of the Witnesses

Graham Tubb MBE

Graham is Head of Energy Policy with SEEDA, the Regional Development Agency for South East England. He has a background in sustainable development, environmental policy & strategic planning at regional, metropolitan and county level; while his career has been mainly in the public sector, it has included private sector and academic appointments (incl. University of Sussex).

Graham is a member of the Executive Committee of Climate South East, and was its Chair from 2002 until October 2008; Climate South East, originally the SE Climate Change Partnership, was set up in 2001 principally to raise the profile of the need to address, and plan for, adaptation to climate change. Graham also chairs the national Sustainable Consumption and Production Network (SCPnet), is a member of the Sussex Energy Group Steering Board at SPRU, University of Sussex, and is a member of the Aldersgate Group. He managed the national RDA policy lead on Energy on behalf of England's nine Regional Development Agencies for five years (until Jan 2009) and in this role represented the RDAs on a number of Government bodies, mainly concerning energy and climate change. Graham was made an MBE in 2000 for services to regional governance and he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Jörn Peters

Jörn holds a degree in Spatial Planning from the University of Dortmund in Germany. He worked as a planner at Southampton City Council and Adur District Council. His responsibilities included strategic planning, policy development and sustainability appraisals. Jörn has also experience with the development and assessment of European projects from positions at the Environment Agency and the North Sea Interreg Secretariat. He joined the Regional Planning Body (formerly Regional Assembly – now South East England Partnership Board) as full-time Regional Planner in September 2006. Jörn's areas of work include flood risk, climate change, water resources, water quality and the coast. He is leading the sustainability appraisal work and is the lead officer for the South Hampshire sub-region.

Jörn gave evidence at the Examination in Public of the draft South East Plan and produced evidence such as the Regional Flood Risk Appraisal. He recently worked on the preparation of a guide for local planners on climate change. He is currently undertaking a Regional Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment. Jörn is participating in

various regional partnerships such as the Climate South East Planning Sector Group, a national advisory group on the preparation of guidance about 'Planning for Water' as well as European cooperation projects on climate change adaptation.

Thurstan Crockett

Thurstan is Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy at Brighton & Hove City Council, managing a Sustainability Team within the council's central Policy Unit. He leads the city's work on sustainable development, tackling climate change and developing a low carbon Brighton & Hove. He works closely with the Council's leadership, senior management team and the City Sustainability Partnership.

He won the national 2007 Global to Local Foundation Award for the local authority officer doing most to place Climate Change at the heart of a council's culture, policies and practices. His work helped the city win recognition recently by independent sustainable development charity Forum for the Future as "the most sustainable city in Britain" – though it slipped to second place in 2008 and he is far from complacent about its challenges.

In a varied career, his previous role was as the council's Economic Development Manager where he worked to balance regeneration and support for creative industries with programmes to help homeless and other disadvantaged people into work. This included a renewed focus on opportunities in the construction industry, as well as on working to establish support for social enterprises.

Before this, he was Regeneration Manager at East Midlands Development Agency, overseeing regeneration programmes for the City of Lincoln and for Lincolnshire market towns. He has also worked as Development Manager for a county tourism association, and as a programme manager for a £2 million EU Community Initiative.

Thurstan's early career was as a journalist and he worked on newspapers, in radio and in public relations before branching off into the voluntary environmental sector for The Wildlife Trusts and then Shell's environmental community relations programme.

He lives in Brighton with his wife, Becca, and their lively toddler, Tommy; and as a recent Chairman of Brighton Music Network, gets to as many live gigs and local events as possible.