



University of Northampton Sustainability Summit



2023



**Theme:
Adapting to a Changing World – Addressing Our Shared Sustainability Challenges**



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Forewords.



Professor Anne-Marie Kilday
Vice Chancellor
UON

I am delighted to be writing this Foreword for the University of Northampton's inaugural Sustainability Summit, taking place as part of the University's Festival of Waterside, a series of events which are celebrating the fifth anniversary of the opening of Waterside Campus on 1 August 2018.

As Vice Chancellor, I am committed to ensuring that sustainability is integrated into the University's academic and professional operations. This Summit provides an opportunity to bring together students, staff and representatives of local, national and international organisations to identify shared environmental, social and governance sustainability challenges, identify solutions and develop action plans to enable these challenges to be overcome.

The Summit will also provide an opportunity to share knowledge and effective practice and highlight sustainability projects across Northamptonshire and the region. The setting of the Sustainability Accords will ensure the Summit's work will continue with the aspiration of hosting further Summits in future years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors for the Summit, each of whom recognise the importance of sustainability in improving the quality of our lives from environmental and corporate perspectives. I look forward to engaging with you and to congratulating the award winners being recognised as part of the Summit.

Forewords.



Becky Bradshaw
Chief Operating Officer
UON

I join the Vice Chancellor in welcoming the opportunity to contribute towards this Foreword for the first Sustainability Summit. For some time, the University has been working to ensure that we embed sustainability through our operations, professional practice and academic delivery. Waterside Campus was designed and built with sustainability and efficient and environmentally responsible use of energy at its heart and since 2018 we have achieved our carbon reduction goal in relation to a 30% decrease in Scope 1 and 2 emissions and will be working towards further carbon reduction in line with the UK Government goals.

Our sustainability work extends into our operations through our procurement processes, waste strategy, water management, energy management, and travel planning. Responsible waste disposal is a priority at the University, ensuring that we protect not only our land by ensuring we have enough appropriately placed external bins for mixed recycling, general waste and coffee cups, but also by diverting 100% of our waste away from landfill.

We aim to reduce Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) travel by 20% against our

2018 baseline figure of 75% SOV travel and support sustainable alternatives, including our own fleet of subsidised UNO Buses, a Park and Ride facility on the edge of town, and excellent cycling and walking routes.

We are constantly looking at ways to reduce our food waste and promote sustainable consumption. We have signed up to initiatives which support the monitoring and reporting of the food being wasted through the review of portion sizes, ensuring minimal waste from the plate and initiatives such as Too Good To Go, which is also aligned with the University's mitigations to the Cost-of-Living crisis.

Our new Sustainability Strategy places a clear focus on embedding sustainability in our curriculum through education for sustainable development and incorporation of the United Nations SDGs framework to ensure our students and staff have the knowledge, tools and confidence to address the sustainability challenges of tomorrow. But we are not complacent. The University's Sustainability Board continues to monitor and direct our sustainability targets and I look forward to sharing our effective practice and learning about the effective practice of others at the Summit.



Dr Ebenezer Laryea
Associate Professor and
Chair of the Planning Committee
UON Sustainability Summit

In 1856, a little-known American scientist by the name of Eunice Foote conducted an experiment to better understand the warming effect of carbon gases on the atmosphere. Her findings at that time, revealed what we are experiencing today; that a build-up of these gases in the atmosphere would lead to a warming effect and disrupt climatic patterns. Since then, mankind has been on a path to a rendezvous with history – a point at which we must address the challenge posed to us by Eunice Foote's discovery 167 years ago.

For more than a century since we became aware of the effects of greenhouse gases, we have, despite our best efforts, lacked significantly in taking the decisive steps required to pivot to more sustainable models in our commercial practices. The UON Sustainability Summit represents a meaningful part of the University of Northampton's contribution to the global effort to accelerate the shift to more sustainable practices. As a University that is committed to sustainability and the provision of sustainable solutions, we are proud to continue our established record of showing leadership in this area by holding Northamptonshire's first-ever Sustainability Summit. As we mark five

years of being at our Waterside Campus, we are confident that this maiden 2023 edition of the UON Sustainability Summit marks a new chapter in the story of our commitment and determination to be a provider of sustainable solutions for the stakeholder community.

On behalf of the Planning Committee and entire University, I would like to welcome all delegates to this historic sustainability event. Over its two days, the Summit will provide a platform for identifying our shared sustainability challenges, highlighting the solutions we can develop together, facilitating sharing best practice, and exchange of knowledge. The Summit schedule across both days has been carefully curated to ensure a balanced approach to discussing issues and topics which touch all spheres of sustainability, and we are confident that all delegates will find great purpose and a new sense of mission about the Summit agenda and activities.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our sponsors, partners and delegates, without whom this event would not be possible. We value your support greatly and hope you will continue to work together with us to pursue our long-term strategy for the Summit.

Keynote Speakers.



Hugh Pile
CEO, Blue Skies Ltd

Post-university, Hugh joined the premium drinks business, Diageo, where he stayed for 14 years, honing his trade in both marketing and sales. After a range of roles for numerous different UK brands, he headed up the marketing for Diageo's whisky brands within the African continent, before becoming the Marketing and Innovation Director of Vietnam.

After this long tenure, Hugh joined L'Oréal as the Chief Marketing Officer for Western Europe. This position strove to drive a media, digital and cultural revolution within the business and his remit was broad: strategy development, merger and acquisition, improved innovation, new channel exploration/new business, improved organisational capability, and more. In July 2017, Hugh joined Blue Skies as Chief Marketing and Sales Officer, becoming CEO in 2020. Blue Skies is a fresh-cut fruit enterprise built by Hugh's

father 25 years ago, with processing operations in Ghana, South Africa, Egypt, Benin, Brazil and the UK. The 'impact' based business model is built on the idea of adding value at source so it can return more benefit to producer countries and deliver prepared fruit products of optimal maturity and ripeness. This model has sustainability principles embedded in its core values, which has enabled the business to achieve four Queen's Award for Sustainable Development. Blue Skies has a long-standing relationship with UON, having partnered the University on the FBL Challenge, a student competition to find innovative solutions to sustainability challenges, as well as working with the Centre for Sustainable Business Practices to conduct a Social Impact study on its operations in Ghana, and run FRESHPPACT, an Industry Research and Development Hub to find solutions to mitigate plastic pollution in food supply chains.



Professor Chris Fogwill
Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cranfield University

Chris joined Cranfield University as Pro-Vice Chancellor and Head of the School of Water, Energy and Environment in October 2021. He obtained a BSc in Geological Oceanography at the University of Bangor in 1995, then joined the Department of Earth Sciences at Cambridge University as a postgraduate research assistant in the palaeoceanography group.

This was followed by a PhD at the University of Edinburgh, focused on ice-sheet reconstruction and modelling in Antarctica and Patagonia. After a NERC-funded postdoctoral research position within the School of Geoscience at Edinburgh, Chris became Senior Lecturer and Director of Programme in Physical Geography at the University of Exeter in 2007. In 2012 at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, he was awarded an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship based at the Climate Change Research Centre (CCRC), the leading hub for climate system modelling in the Southern Hemisphere, where he remains as Adjunct Professor.

As a climate scientist and Earth systems modeller, Chris' core academic research straddles the traditional divides between glaciology, geochemistry and climate system modelling and has been instrumental in defining the linkages between the Earth's great ice sheets, climate and global sea level during the Anthropocene. His work has provided critical insights that have enabled him and his collaborators to improve future projections of our global commitment to sea level rise due to anthropogenic warming, reducing uncertainty and helping inform on one of the key socioeconomic impacts of climate change. Key to this is Chris' leadership of groups such as the ANTCLIM21 climate projection network, and the PRECISE network, dedicated to improved projections of sea level rise across the Pacific and Indian Oceans, linking researchers from Australia, New Zealand, China, Bangladesh and Japan to reduce uncertainty in sea level projections.

Keynote Speakers.



Deborah Taylor PCQI
Managing Director
Sustainable Leather Foundation

Deborah is the Managing Director of the Sustainable Leather Foundation, a not-for-profit Foundation, set up in July 2020 specifically to support the leather industry to become more sustainable.

The Foundation works across the whole value chain, from farm to finished product, and promotes the AIM Approach to sustainable improvement - Accessible, Inclusive and Modular. Having created the innovative SLF Transparency Dashboard™, the first of its kind in the leather industry, Deborah is passionate

about providing the right environment for transparent and verifiable information that gives confidence to consumers while protecting the commercial integrity of the individual organisations along the value chain. Since April 2020, Deborah has also worked as a Consultant for the UNECE on the project to “enhance traceability and transparency for more sustainable value chains in the garment and footwear sector”. A practitioner member of the Chartered Quality Institute and a certified SA8000 lead auditor, she also serves as a Council Member for the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists.

Panel Chairs.



Martin Baxter
Director of Policy and External Affairs,
Deputy CEO – IEMA

Martin is Policy and External Affairs Director and Deputy CEO at the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA). He works in the UK and internationally to support the transition to a low carbon, resource efficient and sustainable economy and reverse the decline of the natural environment.

Martin has national and international experience in developing and negotiating global and European environmental management standards and 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 around 100 countries. He is a Board member of the IEMA and SocEnv and a member of the Government's Green Jobs Delivery Group.



Panel Chairs.



Rachel Mallows MBE DL
Managing Director
The Mallows Company

Rachel is an External Member of the Centre for Sustainable Business Practices at UON. She is the founder of The Mallows Company Limited, a Northamptonshire-based business with a regional remit, providing training, mentoring, coaching and consultancy to SMEs and larger businesses of all sectors, as well as careers guidance to adults and within schools.

She is Founder and Director of the Weetabix Northamptonshire Food and Drink Awards (founded in 2009), Made In Northamptonshire, and Chair of Food from England which represents Regional Food Groups. The Mallows Company also delivers the FEAST2 programme, supporting food and drink manufacturers in the SEMLEP area with mentoring, grants and technical assistance. Through Made In Northamptonshire, Rachel has teamed up with Northamptonshire Acre to set up the North Northamptonshire

Sustainable Food Network and delivered part of a CRF government funded project to deliver Full Circle, raising food chain awareness and introducing emerging technologies to support sustainability and food waste in North Northamptonshire businesses. She is also a coach and mentor for students on the MSc in Sustainability at Cranfield University.

After many years of trustee roles (and a director of Northamptonshire Chamber), Rachel is currently enjoying being Chair of the Northamptonshire Community Foundation, Northamptonshire Surprise and SEMLEP's Growth Hub. She was awarded the MBE for her services to Business and Entrepreneurship in 2016 and was made a Deputy Lieutenant for Northamptonshire in the same year. In her spare time she is a beekeeper and whale watcher.



Max MacGillivray
Editor in Chief
Beanstalk Global

Max is the founder of Beanstalk Global, a social enterprise that supports, educates and promotes the global fresh food industry.

Having recorded over a hundred broadcasts with key industry professionals and multinational business, it is a wide-reaching platform which continues to inspire. A graduate of Harper Adams, Max's background includes working as a trader in the grain sector during his time at the National Farmers Union. In addition to founding Beanstalk, Max founded the Great Fruit & Veg Adventure in 2013, which culminated in

his riding an adventure motorbike from London to Cape Town the following year visiting farms and highlighting where produce is grown along the way. Max's latest initiative is called 'Talking Leaders', a monthly broadcast series which sees inspirational industry speakers share their life experiences and deliver impactful stories to the AgriLeader community. The series has had appearances from industry leaders in the global food industry space, including Emma Thomas, CEO of Sunshine Coast (Australia), and Steve Dunkley, Regional Agriculture Director for HSBC Business Banking.



Our Key Sponsors.



Freefoam is the leading manufacturer of a wide range of innovative uPVC fascia and soffit products. We also produce and distribute rainwater systems, external cladding, and interior panelling systems for the building industry in Ireland, the UK and mainland Europe. One of Freefoam's biggest sustainability drivers is our continued transition from a linear to a 'Circular Economy', enabling the reuse and circulation of resources, retaining economic value and eliminating waste. As a responsible manufacturer, our approach aims to monitor and reduce the overall impact of our business activities on the environment.



CIWM is the leading membership organisation for professionals in the resources and waste management sector, representing and supporting over 5,500 individuals across the UK and overseas. At CIWM, membership means more for professional life: more knowledge, more connections, more resources, more representation, more partnerships and, ultimately, more potential. We empower our community of members to achieve success and play a vital role in shaping the future of the resources and waste management sector, ensuring their views are represented and that policy development is informed by theoretical and practical understanding and experience. It is our mission to unite, equip and mobilise our members to lead, influence and deliver, so that together, we can achieve our shared purpose: to move the world beyond waste. Find out more about CIWM and how you can become a member at ciwm.co.uk



The Fresh Produce Impact Hub (FRESHPPACT) is a research and development hub focused on addressing sustainability challenges within the fresh produce industry. FRESHPPACT is funded by a UK Aid grant that has been made available via the Sustainable Manufacturing and Pollution Programme (SMEP). The SMEP programme is funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and is implemented in partnership with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).



Beanstalk Global is the go-to broadcast platform for key businesses, trade groups and their affiliated sectors, to deliver highly engaging content across multiple platforms including digital, video, events and online. We have a mission to engage with a wide range of voices to educate, explore opportunities, areas of collaboration and partnerships which can help drive solutions whilst involving consumers along the journey.



The Sustainable Business Alliance exists to help organisations of all shapes and sizes to navigate the increasingly complex sustainability landscape in order to achieve impact. We do this by providing access to a wide range of specially curated tools, information, training and resources that empower businesses to do the right thing.

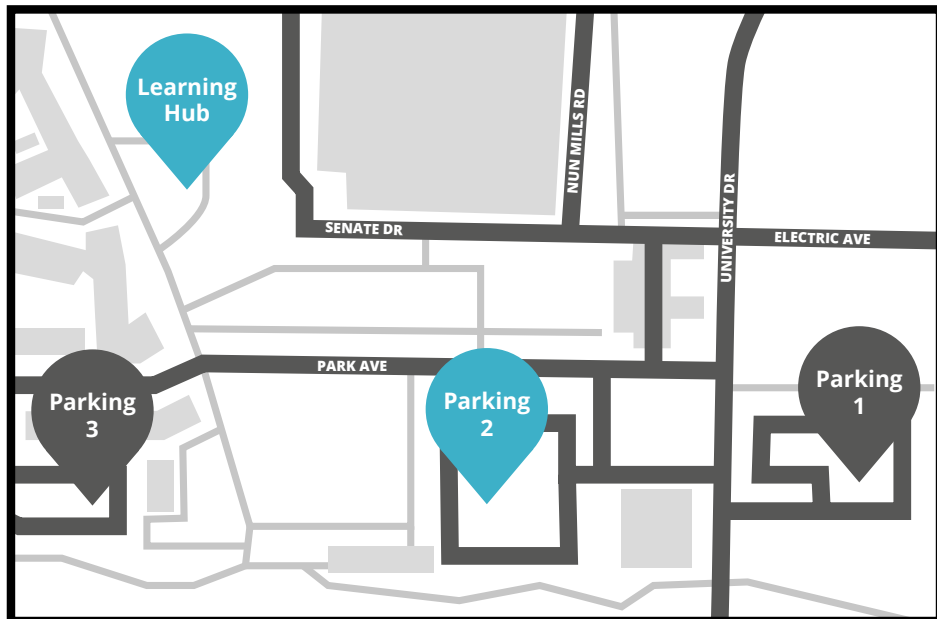


Venue details and parking.

The Summit will take place at the University of Northampton's award-winning Waterside Campus. All the main Summit activities will take place on the ground floor of the Learning Hub building.

The cheapest parking for delegates is on-site in **car park 2**, which can be reached via University Drive, using the postcode **NN1 5PA**.

All-day parking for one day is charged at £3, made on arrival by cashless payment machines, or in advance via the RingGo app, website or phone number (the UON RingGo code is 24700, 20p transaction fee applies). Accessible car parking spaces are available for blue badge holders.



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Freefoam are serious about sustainability and playing our part in managing precious resources...

...We're on a journey and have already taken some significant steps with many more to follow. Our aim is to put reduce, re-use and recycle at the heart of everything we do" - Geoff Barnett, General Manager, UK

ABOUT

Freefoam is the leading manufacturer of a wide range of innovative PVC-UE fascia and soffit products; also producing gutter systems, external cladding and interior panelling systems for the building industry in Ireland, the UK and Mainland Europe

All electricity used at Freefoam Northampton is supplied from **Renewable energy**

In 2022, Freefoam's head office & manufacturing plant, **reduced their CO2 emissions by 9%** from their 2019 baseline

Four electric vehicle charging points were installed at Freefoam in 2022 to support their transition to a fully electric fleet

Freefoam is a **founding member of CIRCULEIRE**, a national platform for circular manufacturing, accelerating the transition towards a net zero circular economy



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Summit Schedule - Day 1 (15 May).

8.45 – 9.30am	Registration of delegates
	Location: Learning Commons, Ground Floor, Learning Hub
9.30 – 9.45am	Summit opening remarks and launch of Festival of Waterside
	Speaker: Professor Anne-Marie Kilday, Vice Chancellor, UON
9.45 – 10.15am	Keynote 1
	What does sustainable business mean in the 21st century? Reflections from an industry perspective on sustainability challenges and how we are to address them. Speaker: Hugh Pile, Chief Executive Officer, Blue Skies Holdings Ltd
10.15 – 10.45am	Keynote 2
	Our world in crisis: how much time do we have? Speaker: Professor Chris Fogwill, Pro-Vice Chancellor (School of Water, Energy and Environment), Cranfield University
10.45 – 11.05am	Networking coffee/tea break
	Location: Learning Commons, ground floor, Learning Hub
11.05 – 11.35am	Panel Session
	What are the key sustainability topics that are most relevant to organisations? Chair: Martin Baxter FIEMA, Cenv, Executive Director of Policy and External Affairs, Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Victoria Blake, Environment & Sustainability Manager, UON Cllr Harriet Pentland, Chair for EAP Sustainable Communities, North Northamptonshire Council Kelly Shields, Communication and Technical Manager, Fresh Produce Consortium Lucy Reece Raybould, Chief Executive, British Footwear Association Victoria Taylor, Vice Chair, Institute of Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability (ICRS)

11.35am – 12.45pm	Panel Session
	Brands share their understanding and approaches to sustainability (Governance and Strategy) Chair: Max MacGillivray, Editor in Chief, Beanstalk Global Nicola Pichel-Juan, Sustainability Services Manager, Satra Technology Centre Guy Schanschieff, MBE DL Founder, Bambino Mio Sharon O'Connor FIEMA FCILT, FIIRSM, FIFST, Group Compliance Manager, Nene Group Jane Winter, Head of ESG, Medigold Health Rob Colmer, Head of Government Affairs & Sustainability, Aston Martin
12.45 – 2pm	Networking lunch
	Location: Learning Hub
2 - 3pm	Industry-specific break out sessions to identify shared environmental sustainability challenges
	Moderators: Professor Will Wise, Professor of Leather Science, UON Professor Amin Hosseinian Far, Professor of Systems Thinking, UON Dr Seyi Omoloso, Lecturer in Sustainable Business, UON Dr Simon Sneddon, Associate Professor in Environmental Law, UON Steven Whisker, VP Net Zero Supply Chain Lead, Barclays
3 – 3.10pm	Plenary and networking break
	Location: Learning Commons, ground floor, Learning Hub
3.10 – 4.15pm	Solution providers share their approaches
	Chair: Rachel Mallows MBE DL, Managing Director, The Mallows Company Solution providers: Deborah Taylor, Managing Director, Sustainable Leather Foundation Simon Derrick, Founder, Sustainable Business Alliance Dr Anna Willetts, President, CIWM
4.15 – 4.20pm	Closing thoughts and Day 2 preview
	Karen Jones, Dean of the Faculty of Business & Law, UON

Summit Schedule - Day 2 (16 May).

8.45 – 10am	Networking breakfast in The Hide
	Theme: Celebrating Five Years of Sustainability at Waterside: The UON Journey Victoria Blake, Environment and Sustainability Manager, UON Cllr Jonathan Nunn, Leader of the Council, West Northamptonshire County Council Jenny Herrera, CEO, Good Business Charter
10 – 10.30am	Keynote 3
	Resetting the Dial: The sustainability-conscious consumer in an ever-changing marketing landscape Speaker: Deborah Taylor, Managing Director, Sustainable Leather Foundation
10.30 – 11.15am	Fireside Chat
	Collaborate to Innovate: the story of the Fresh Produce Impact Hub (FRESHPPACT) and the Sustainable Business Alliance (SBA) Chair: Max MacGillivray, Editor in Chief, Beanstalk Global Simon Derrick, Global Head of Sustainability at Blue Skies , Project Director for FRESHPPACT , Founder of SBA and Visiting Fellow at UON



11.15 – 11.45am	Networking coffee/tea break
	Location: Learning Commons, ground floor, Learning Hub
11.45am – 12.45pm	Panel Session
	Brands share their understanding and approaches to sustainability (Turning the 'blah blah blah' into action) Chair: Max MacGillivray, Editor in Chief, Beanstalk Global Duncan Farrington Managing Director, Farrington Oils Lee Orbell Sustainability Team Lead, Weetabix Simon Baty, Knowledge Transfer Manager for Agri-food, Innovate UK KTN Damian Pickard Social Impact Director, Goodwill Solutions Valerie Zishiri Sustainability Coordinator, Freefoam Ltd
12.45 – 2pm	Networking lunch
	Location: Learning Hub
2 – 3pm	Industry-specific sessions to identify shared social sustainability challenges
	Moderators: Dr Chijioke Uba, Senior Lecturer in Sustainability Management, UON Dr Dilshad Sarwar, Subject Lead for Business Systems & Operations, UON Adrian Pryce DL, Associate Professor, UON Jana Sherrin, VP Modern Slavery & Human Rights Lead, Barclays Jenny Herrera, CEO, Good Business Charter
3 – 3.45pm	Plenary
	To discuss identified sustainability challenges mappable UON expertise/support and agree the Northampton Sustainability Accords (NSA) Dr Ebenezer Laryea, Planning Committee Chair, UON Sustainability Summit 2023
3.45 – 4.15pm	Festival of Waterside Sustainability Awards presentation
	Best Sustainability Initiative Award Best Sustainability Innovation Award UON Vice Chancellor's Sustainability Award
4.20pm	Finish

UON Sustainability Summit Planning Committee.

Dr Ebenezer Laryea
Chair

Professor Amin Hosseinian Far
Deputy Chair

Dr Chijioke Uba
Academic Liaison
(Social Sustainability and
International Business)

Dr Seyi Omoloso
Academic Liaison
(Sustainable Business and Leather)

Victoria Blake
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Dr Dilshad Sarwar
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