



Government
Events

The Future of British High Streets: Manchester

Thursday 3rd September 2020
Event Guide





Our Loyalty Discount

This discount entitles attendees to a 20% discount on any future conference being run by Government Events in the next 12 months. Please quote code Loyalty20 at the start of your booking.



How to Claim Your CPD Points

Regarding CPD credits, it is the individual delegate's responsibility to evaluate their learning and record it appropriately into their CPD portfolios according to your institute's requirements.

For this Conference, you are entitled to 8 CPD points.



Logging into EventsAir

You will receive your login details 24 hours prior to the event from events@m-sp-av.co.uk, so please ensure you mark this address as safe to prevent it from going into the junk mailbox.

Please [click here](#) for an example of how the online platform will look.



Welcome Letter

Dear Delegate,

Welcome to The Future of British High Streets 2020 conference.

High Streets have been at the heart of our communities for centuries. The way we shop has changed and High Streets have struggled to keep up. The expansion of the Future High Streets Fund to cover 100 towns and provide £1 billion of support complements ongoing initiatives going on in towns and cities across the UK. These combined efforts share the goal of reducing the vacancy rate which now sits at 10.3%, protecting jobs and breathing new life into high streets.

- In the first half of 2019 2,870 shops closed across the UK, this amounts to 16 units being vacated every day
- Online sales have increased by 600% in the past 12 years
- December 2018 was reported to be the worst year on record for in store sales
- Around 70,000 jobs were lost in the retail industry last year (ONS)

This event will build on discussions from the national event in January this year. The Future of British High Streets in the Midlands and North will provide an invaluable opportunity to hear updates on the future of support for high street regeneration from senior policymakers and discover the latest funding opportunities available. Participants will also engage with a range of best practice local authorities who are implementing innovative solutions through a series of insightful case studies and discussions.

We hope you have a rewarding and enjoyable day.

Yours Truly,

David Blake
Government Events



Our Future Events

Please look at our website, www.GovernmentEvents.co.uk,
to view our future events. These include:

[The Changing Landscape of UK Building Regulations and Fire Safety](#)

Tuesday 15th September 2020, Online

[The Cleaner Greener Local Government Conference](#)

Thursday 17th September 2020, Online

[The Future of Housing Services 2020](#)

Tuesday 22nd September 2020, Online

[The Decarbonising Transport and Infrastructure Conference](#)

Wednesday 23rd September 2020, Online

For any enquiries, please call 0330 0584 285 or email Enquiries@governmentevents.co.uk

*Programme Subject to Change



Agenda AM

- 09:30-10:00 **Online Registration**
- 10:00-10:10 **Chair's Opening Remarks**
Graham Galpin MSc FIPM, Economic Development Consultant, High Streets Experts Advisory Panel
- 10:10-10:30 **Keynote Address: The Future of High Streets: A Policy Update**
Ben Jones, High Streets Strategy, Cities and Local Growth Unit, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- 10:30-10:50 **Keynote Address: The High Streets Task Force: Summary and Support**
Dr Steve Millington, Director, Institute of Place Management

10:50-11:10 **Question and Answer Session**

11:10-11:25 **Comfort Break**

- 11:25-11:45 **Keynote: The Impact of Covid-19 on British High Streets**
Subrahmaniam Krishnan-Harihara, Head of Research, Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
- 11:45-12:05 **Case Study: Sheffield: Regeneration and Revitalisation Adapting to a Challenging Environment**
Nalin Seneviratne, Director – City Centre Development, Sheffield City Council

12:05-12:25 **Question and Answer Session**

12:25-13:10 **Lunch Break**

*Programme Subject to Change



Agenda PM

13:10-13:40 **Breakout Networking Session**

13:40-14:00 **Keynote: Historic High Streets: Using Local Heritage to Help Regenerate High Streets**
Catherine Dewar, Regional Director for the North West, Historic England

14:00-14:20 **Case Study: Renewal of the UK's High Streets: Restoring Cultural Infrastructure**
Preston Benson, Founder, Really Local Group

14:20-14:40 **Question and Answer Session**

14:40-14:55 **Comfort Break**

14:55-15:15 **Case Study: Bolton Council: The Second Stage of Future High Streets Fund**
Cllr David Greenhalgh, Leader, Bolton Council

15:15-15:35 **Case Study: Town Centre Offerings in Trafford: Collaborative Approaches to Regeneration**
Richard Roe, Corporate Director, Place, Trafford Council

15:35-15:55 **Questions and Answers**

15:55 **Chair's Closing Address**

*Programme Subject to Change



Speaker Biographies (A-Z)

Preston Benson

Founder, Really Local Group

Preston is the Founder and visionary behind Really Local Group™.

In 2005 he moved to London and became acutely aware that the majority of developers who claimed they to be 'regenerators', were actually developing sites with a 'top down' approach, with little real consultation with the locals as to what they really wanted for the area, and with very little 'social conscience'. This was leading to identikit high streets and a clear neglect of localism.

New to the London property market, Preston wanted to break this mould, to deliver true regeneration and to shake up cultural development by launching venues that would truly have the local community's best interests at its core.



Catherine Dewar

Regional Director for the North West, Historic England

Catherine has worked in the heritage sector for 25 years. She worked for Portsmouth and Birmingham City Councils encouraging a pragmatic approach to conservation and making good design mainstream. She then moved back home to Newcastle to work for English Heritage, mainly on regeneration schemes and the design of new development in historic areas. Having studied Town Planning with Urban Design she has a strong interest in urbanism and the value that local heritage has for places and communities. At Historic England, Catherine is Regional Director for the North West, leading the teams in providing advice, grants and support for those engaged in constructively managing the historic environment.



Graham Galpin MSc FIPM

Economic Development Consultant, High Streets Expert Advisory Panel

Graham has been working in economic development for over 20 years. He has created and evaluated major regeneration programmes across England.

He has served as Chairman and Director of Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, the BCC accredited Chamber for the County and Medway and on a number of County wide partnerships.

After a period running his consulting company he was elected to Ashford Borough Council and became Cabinet Member for Town Centres for more than 6 years. His success in revitalising Ashford resulted in him being invited to join the Timpson Panel which proposed the Future High Street Fund and the High Street Task Force.

He left the Council in May 2019 and has worked as a freelance with the High Street Task Force, Power to Change and Dover District Council. He is a regular speaker on town centres.

Graham has a forgiving wife and two grown up offspring. If not working he is likely to be with Mrs G walking their daughter's dogs.

He claims that his hobby is revitalising towns!





Government
Events

Cllr David Greenhalgh

Leader, Bolton Council



Government
Events

Ben Jones

High Streets Strategy, Cities and Local Growth Unit, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

Ben has worked on the government's high streets strategy as part of the Cities and Local Growth Unit since April 2019. He helped deliver the Great British High Streets Awards 2019, a UK-wide government competition that shares leading examples of the ways high streets are succeeding in overcoming the challenges of a rapidly changing environment and actively encourages the adoption of best practices across the nation.

Prior to joining the Unit, Ben worked in social housing policy and for King's College London on their London engagement strategy, where he had previously studied at undergraduate level. Ben has recently completed an MSc in Public Policy and Management at Birkbeck, University of London.



Government
Events

Subrahmaniam Krishnan-Harihara

Head of Research, Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce



Government
Events

Dr Steve Millington

Director, Institute of Place Management

Dr Steve Millington is a Director of Institute of Place Management (the IPM), who has worked on key research projects concerning high street revitalisation in the UK, including the ESRC funded High Street UK 2020, and Innovate funded Bringing Big Data to Small Users. He is lead author of influential reports including Multifunctional Centres, and High Street 2030, the report which informed the recommendations of Sir John Timpson's High Streets Expert Panel. With PwC, the IPM is now co-ordinating the UK government's High Streets Taskforce.



Government
Events

Nalin Seneviratne

Director – City Centre Development, Sheffield City Council

Nalin has been a director at Sheffield City Council since 2009. Now, as Director of City Centre Development he is guiding a city centre strategy that reinforces Sheffield's position as an inclusive regional capital at the heart of an ambitious northern economy.

In his local government roles, Nalin has been responsible for key regeneration projects and the delivery of ambitious capital programmes including schools, housing and transport, establishing strong working relationships with key bodies such as the Local Government Association, Homes England, the Cabinet Office and UK Trade & Investment.

Nalin's current focus is on delivering the Council's flagship Heart of the City II project – a £470 million, 1.5 million sq. ft. mixed-use scheme which will provide a vibrant new commercial, cultural and retail destination in the heart of Sheffield city centre. Phase one of the scheme is complete. This



Government Events

includes a landmark office building occupied by HSBC and CMS, as well as almost 60,000 sq. ft. of retail space and high quality public realm. Phase 2 is under construction.

A fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Nalin has held senior positions in the public and private sector in a career spanning over 30 years. His experience has shaped his belief that the delivery of public sector services and projects must be flexible and must increasingly be shaped by strong leadership, commercial considerations and an inclusive approach to stakeholder partnerships.



Government
Events

Richard Roe

Corporate Director, Place, Trafford Council

Richard is a dynamic member of the Corporate Leadership Team within Trafford Council, with strategic lead responsibility for economic growth, housing, planning, highways, transport, regulatory services, leisure provision and the One Trafford Partnership.

He works towards the delivery of sustainable economic and housing growth, vibrant town centres and accessible green spaces, leads on the Council's investment and development portfolio, and is a non-executive Director of GreaterSport and Trafford Leisure CIC. Over the past nine years while working with Trafford Council, Richard has demonstrated a strong approach in developing the borough and meeting the Council's ambitions for sustainable growth and being an economic powerhouse within Greater Manchester.



Government
Events

Thank you for attending our conference.

We hope you found the day interesting and insightful. Speaker presentations will be made available to download on completing the post show survey which will be emailed to you within one week after the event.

We wish you a safe journey home.

Government Events, 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London
WC2H 9JQ T: 0330 0584285 W: www.GovernmentEvents.co.uk