

# Regulatory Futures 2021: trust and change in uncertain times



9 September 2021 | 09.30–13.30

Conference chair: **Clive Myrie**, journalist and broadcaster

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<b>09.30–10.35</b>	<b>Competition, innovation and protection: getting the balance right</b> <b>Neil Bayton</b> , Head of Partnerships, Trustpilot <b>Sarah Blackmore</b> , Executive Director of Strategy, Policy and Engagement, Social Work England <b>Polly Mackenzie</b> , Chief Executive, Demos <b>Paul Philip</b> , Chief Executive, SRA
<b>10.35</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>10.50–11.30</b>	<b>Regulating for uncertainty: a flexible approach</b> <b>Matthew Gill</b> , Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Government <b>Alena Kozakova</b> , Chief Economist and Senior Director of Analytics, Ofwat <b>Dr Pauline Stephen</b> , Chief Executive and Registrar, General Teaching Council for Scotland
<b>11.30</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11.45–12.25</b>	<b>Equality and diversity: shifting the dial</b> <b>Kyle Blackburn</b> , Black Solicitors Network Director and Chair of BSN North <b>Jane Malcolm</b> , Executive Director, External and Corporate Affairs, SRA <b>Chris Millward</b> , Director for Fair Access and Participation, Office for Students
<b>12.25</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>12.40–13.30</b>	<b>Technology: opportunity or risk?</b> <b>Stephen Almond</b> , Director of Technology and Innovation, Information Commissioner's Office <b>Stefan Hunt</b> , Chief Data and Digital Officer, Competition Markets Authority <b>Mick McAteer</b> , founder and co-Director, Financial Inclusion Centre <b>Professor Suzanne Rab</b> , Barrister at Serle Court; Regulatory Policy Institute; law professor and lecturer <b>Tracy Vegro</b> , Executive Director, Strategy and Innovation, SRA

# Speaker biographies

## **Conference chair: Clive Myrie, Journalist, Foreign Correspondent and BBC News Presenter**

Clive Myrie is a multi award winning journalist, one of the BBC's most experienced foreign correspondents and a recognised face as a BBC News presenter.

Born in Bolton, Lancashire he studied law at the University of Sussex. He gained a place on the BBC's prestigious journalism trainee scheme in 1988, starting in local radio and progressing through the ranks from regional television to network TV and radio reporting in 1992.

## **Stephen Almond, Director of Technology and Innovation, Information Commissioner's Office**

Stephen leads the ICO's team responsible for anticipating, understanding and shaping the impacts of emerging technology and innovation on people and society. He is charged with engineering information rights into the fabric of new ideas, products and business models as part of our dynamic digital economy.

Prior to joining the ICO, Stephen led a World Economic Forum initiative to promote the adoption of a more agile, innovation-enabling approach to regulation with governments and tech firms worldwide. He previously worked in leadership roles across the UK Government, including creation of the White Paper on Regulation for the Fourth Industrial Revolution and roll-out of the Regulators' Pioneer Fund, which invested in regulatory sandboxes and similar initiatives to unlock technological innovation.

## **Neil Bayton, Head of Partnerships, Trustpilot**

Neil is a veteran in ecommerce terms having worked in the industry for nearly 20 years. Firstly, with off the shelf ecommerce software provider Actinic and more recently with Trustpilot as Head of Partnerships for the UK, Ireland and ANZ.

Neil and his team have developed the partner programme at Trustpilot to an important commercial channel that delivers for Trustpilot, but more importantly, delivers for their partners. More recently the team has been working closely with key stakeholders in the legal sector to offer solutions to challenges being faced by legal firms in 2021.

## **Kyle Blackburn, Black Solicitors Network Director and Chair of BSN North**

Kyle is a solicitor at JMW Solicitors LLP. His practice focuses on restricting and insolvency. He has worked in the legal profession for more than 10 years, including various management roles within the region's most prominent law firms.

In early 2016, Kyle was voted to become the North Chair of the Black Solicitors Network (BSN). This is part of the larger BSN group, a 25+ year network whose aim is the promotion and retention of black lawyers. He also sits as a Council Member for Manchester Law Society and is a Director Board Member for the national BSN organisation.

### **Sarah Blackmore, Executive Director of Strategy, Policy and Engagement, Social Work England**

Sarah qualified as a social worker from Trinity College Dublin in 1997. Since then, she has worked in a variety of national and international contexts, from frontline practice in Dublin, to working with street children and ex-child soldiers in Sierra Leone during the civil war, to managing services for children and families in the UK. Sarah has worked across statutory, voluntary and regulatory services. Before joining Social Work England, Sarah spent six years in Scotland where she worked for the Scottish social care regulator, and for a mental health charity. She is also a board member for Who Cares? Scotland, a charity supporting care experienced people in Scotland.

### **Matthew Gill, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Government**

Matthew is a senior fellow at the Institute for Government, where he is developing the Institute's work on arms-length bodies. He was previously policy director at the British Business Bank and has worked in policy roles at HM Treasury, the Financial Services Authority and the Bank of England.

Matthew began his career at PwC, where he became a chartered accountant, and holds a PhD in sociology from the London School of Economics. He was an interdisciplinary Mellon postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in Saint Louis and is the author of Accountants' Truth: Knowledge and Ethics in the Financial World.

### **Stefan Hunt, Chief Data and Technology Insight Officer at Competition Markets Authority**

Stefan has been Chief Data and Technology Insight Officer at the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) since 2018. He founded and leads a department of 'technologists' across the disciplines of data science, data engineering, technology insight, behavioural science and digital forensics. The department focuses on digital market cases, assembling rich datasets and using algorithms, and the development and deployment of bespoke technology. He is an Honorary Professor in economics at University of Nottingham and has a PhD in economics from Harvard University. Prior to the CMA he led related analytical capabilities at the UK's Financial Conduct Authority.

### **Alena Kozakova, Chief Economist and Senior Director of Analytics, Ofwat**

Alena joined Ofwat from Frontier Economics. Before that she worked for UK and EU competition authorities including the Competition Commission, Office of Fair Trading and the Directorate General for Competition of the European Commission. She also worked for UK consumer bodies. Alena's expertise covers a wide range of areas of competition and regulatory economics.

### **Polly Mackenzie, Chief Executive, Demos**

Polly started her career as a business journalist. In 2004 she became a Policy Adviser on housing and local government for Edward Davey MP. She then worked for Nick Clegg from 2006 to 2015, helping to write the 2010 Coalition Agreement, and serving as Director of Policy to the Deputy Prime Minister from 2010-15.

After leaving Government, Polly established the operations of the Women's Equality Party, and then went on to found the Money and Mental Health Policy Institute. This is a charity working to break the link between financial difficulty and mental health problems.

### **Jane Malcolm, Executive Director, External and Corporate Affairs, SRA**

Jane is Executive Director, External and Corporate Affairs at the SRA responsible for communications and corporate affairs. Prior to joining the SRA, she held a series of roles at the General Medical Council, where she had responsibility for devolved administrations, was Assistant Director in Fitness to Practise and Assistant Director to the Chief Executive. Previously Jane also worked at the Federation of Small Businesses where she led UK and European policy development.

### **Mick McAteer, Founder and Co-director, Financial Inclusion Centre**

Mick is an experienced advocate for economic and social justice. His work focuses on financial system reform, citizen-consumer rights and technology/data. He has a particular interest in how consumer rights and regulation protects vulnerable consumers, deals with harms created at the intersection of technology/data and markets and services, and how data can be used for public good.

He is founder and Co-director of The Financial Inclusion Centre, a UK not-for-profit policy and research group. He is also Chair of the anti-poverty charity Z2K, Chair of Registry Trust, Deputy Chair of the Consumer Council of Northern Ireland. Previously, he was on the board of the Financial Conduct Authority/ Financial Services Authority for six years and Chair of the European Commission's Financial Services User Group for seven years.

### **Chris Millward, Director for Fair Access and Participation, Office for Students**

Chris is the first Director for Fair Access and Participation in the Office for Students (OfS). His role is to help students and communities throughout England by ensuring that universities and colleges are doing all they can to support underrepresented groups to access and succeed in higher education, and to progress into successful careers. Chris is also an executive member of the OfS board.

Chris started his career at the universities of Warwick, Edinburgh and Durham, then joined the Arts and Humanities Research Council as Head of Research Programmes. Prior to the establishment of the Office for Students in 2018, Chris was Director of Policy at the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

### **Paul Philip, Chief Executive, SRA**

Paul joined the Solicitors Regulation Authority as Chief Executive in 2014. Since then, he has delivered an ambitious programme of reform. This includes the introduction of an up to date regulatory model that supports a modern, competitive, legal sector and a full review of how solicitors qualify and enter the profession. He has also developed the SRA's role as an anti-money laundering supervisor as well as making significant operational improvements

Paul has previously held senior roles in the medical, health and legal sectors.

### **Dr Pauline Stephen, Chief Executive and Registrar, General Teaching Council for Scotland**

Pauline was appointed Chief Executive and Registrar of the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTC Scotland) in March 2021 and is their first female Chief Executive since it was set up in 1965.

Pauline began her career in education as a primary teacher before becoming Principal Psychologist in Aberdeenshire Council and Director of Schools and Learning in Angus

Council. She joined GTC Scotland as Director of Education, Registration and Professional Learning in October 2019, where she led the revision of GTC Scotland's Professional Standards for Teachers and the programme to register college lecturers.

**Tracy Vegro, Executive Director, Strategy and Innovation, SRA**

Tracy joined the SRA in March 2020 as the new Executive Director, Strategy and Innovation at the SRA. Prior to joining the SRA, she was Executive Director, Strategy and Resources at the Financial Reporting Council, the regulator of accounting, audit and corporate governance in the UK.

Tracy has wide experience of regulation, strategy and policy development, having started her career in Whitehall and rising to Director General in the Senior Civil Service. She worked mainly at the Department for Business, with stints in Cabinet Office, Communities and Local Government, the Government Equalities Unit and latterly in the then Department of Energy and Climate Change.

**Professor Suzanne Rab, Barrister at Serle Court; Regulatory Policy Institute; law professor and lecturer**

Professor Suzanne Rab is an independent barrister at Serle Court Chambers and a member of Council of the Regulatory Policy Institute. Suzanne has two decades of wide experience of regulatory law, economic regulation and public policy. Her practice has a particular focus on the interface between innovation, trade and economic regulation. She acts in matters involving governments, regulators and businesses across the regulated sectors including in the communications, energy/environmental, financial services, healthcare/ pharmaceuticals, infrastructure, TMT and natural resources sectors. Suzanne has significant experience at the interface between intellectual property rights and data protection. In private practice as a solicitor prior to joining the bar in England and Wales, she has held positions at leading international regulation and trade practices.

Suzanne maintains an active academic practice concurrently with her barrister practice. She is Professor of Commercial Law and holds the Practice Chair at Brunel University London, a law lecturer at University of Oxford and a visiting professor at Imperial College London (IPR and competition). She has research interests in the areas of technology, innovation and artificial intelligence. Suzanne has significant experience of advising on the development, implementation and application of new competition laws and regulatory regimes in line with international best practices, including in emerging markets. She is a member of the UK Regulators Network (UKRN) Expert Advisory Panel.