Bola Adebanjo

I am a transformation subject matter expert with over 20 years of proven track record in delivering complex global transformation programmes and driving improved business performance for multinational companies. I'm a trusted advisor offering thought leadership, negotiating change, influencing shared outcomes in leadership teams and acting as a sounding board for executive management and boards.
A proud mum of four children; an ACCA Qualified Chartered Accountant (FCCA), MIT Certified Artificial Intelligence Strategy Professional with an ongoing Doctorate Degree in Data Science with Deep technical background with expertise in delivering strategic priorities, coordinating international teams, ensuring excellent stakeholder management, and leading complex business transformations.
I have successfully led, supported and delivered multiple Mergers; Acquisitions; Separations and business transformation programs across operations in over 70 countries in Europe, Africa, APAC, US, Canada, Australia and Middle East countries.

Jessica Burston

I bring years of experience as an Operations Director both in the NHS and in law firms, and have a great deal of experience managing change in organisations. Additionally I have experience in buildings management, Facilities, landlord and tenant relationships, and lease negotiation.
My non-executive experience has been developed by my involvement with a small international development charity for Madagascar, SEED Madagascar. Until earlier this year I had been a trustee since 2019, and the Chair for last four years of my tenure. SEED delivers programmes in conservation, livelihoods, education and health.
I am standing again as a Director for BEC at a time when energy provision and environmental stewardship are becoming ever more closely aligned. I want to see how we can bring the opportunities to the communities that will benefit the most, and join up initiatives across the wider Bristol area.

Alasdair Donn

I would like support and assist BEC as a non-exec director, by bringing my skills and experience of over 40 years in the fields of engineering, construction, sustainable development and renewable energy project delivery.
Key experience over my career that could help support BEC's aims and future growth includes:

- Technical and commercial management of capital projects and process innovation in the food, water and wastewater utility industries

- Leading a team of building performance and sustainability professionals in the construction sector, supporting a business delivering >£1bn of refurbished and new-build assets annually
- Supporting the Building Services Research and Innovation Association (BSRIA) as a non-exec board director for 5 years
- Technical design, project delivery, commercial negotiation and performance monitoring experience on over 50 rooftop solar generation projects

Over the last 5 years I also led an innovation initiative within Willmott Dixon Construction, in partnership with the charity PureLeapfrog, to create collaborative project opportunities with community energy groups across the UK for new solar rooftop installations and on-site PPAs. This has resulted in 3 successfully completed projects, including with BEC at Bristol Beacon and for a ~530kWp system with Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy on a council-owned school building.
The experience of working with community energy partners like BEC made me realise how vital community involvement and a not-for-profit ethos is in making truly sustainable projects happen. Inspired by this I am also now supporting my local group Nadder Community Energy with new project delivery, and I volunteer for the Cranfield Trust who deliver pro-bono professional services support to charity organisations across the UK.
I am retiring from full-time work in January 2027 and, if successful as a candidate, would like to bring my skills and experience to actively support BEC's future growth in community energy projects and help to further reduce bills, support community projects, and cut carbon emissions for Bristol.

Mike Paton

I am a firm believer that community engagement is fundamental to tackling the climate emergency. Bristol Energy Cooperative demonstrates what can be achieved when community is front and centre with technical solutions. I have been a director at BEC since 2024 and Chair of the board since last year, through which time I've supported our successful navigation of challenges from international affairs, improvements to our governance and refinements to our strategy, setting us on a course for continued impact. I would love to continue supporting BEC's work.

I'm CEO of NPK Recovery, a Bristol-based startup that helps festivals and events manage their waste and manufactures a sustainable fertiliser derived from urine. I'm immersed in the realities of the climate emergency and am witness to the challenges of driving system-level change. I bring a balance of deep commercial experience and an understanding of genuine engagement with communities being essential to change.

I was previously Director of Engine Shed, the University of Bristol's technology innovation centre, where I oversaw programmes, facilities and networks to help technology entrepreneurs

turn ideas into new products that tackle society's greatest challenges. Sustaining our city's thriving innovation ecosystem was central to this work, in particular working to engage under-represented parts of the community to develop solutions with the broadest impact possible. Engine Shed made significant progress in broadening its community engagement and improving accessibility to entrepreneurship under my leadership and this experience will help Bristol Energy Cooperative continue to grow the member base and reach new audiences in the region.

I bring almost 15 years of professional experience across sustainability, technology innovation, account management and operations, split across industry, higher education and startups. I have served as a charity trustee and school governor, in both cases chairing the finance sub-committees. I have also been the CEO of a wholly owned subsidiary company of the University of Bristol. I have extensive experience in governance and strategy and the running of an effective board.

Tackling the climate emergency is the global priority of our time. Community energy supports this while improving energy security, allowing individuals to make an impact through investment and strengthening the communities involved. I would love to continue bringing my skills and experience to the Bristol Energy Cooperative board as we build on what's been achieved to grow our impact in the years ahead.