

Speaker Profiles

Michael Matheson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure & Connectivity



Michael Matheson was appointed Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity in June 2018.

The Cabinet Secretary is responsible for:

- transport strategy, analysis and planning
- public transport and active travel
- bus policy and national concessionary travel
- rail and rail infrastructure - ScotRail
- maritime Policy including ports and canals
- aviation including HIAL
- freight
- low carbon transport and infrastructure
- roads and road safety
- major infrastructure projects
- infrastructure investment policy/Infrastructure Investment Plan/Infrastructure Commission
- City and Regional Growth Deals

He was born in Glasgow in 1970 and educated at St John Bosco Secondary School. He went on to study at Queen Margaret College, Edinburgh, where he obtained a BSc in Occupational Therapy. He also holds a BA and a Diploma in Applied Social Sciences from the Open University.

Prior to becoming an MSP, Mr Matheson practised as a Community Occupational Therapist with Stirling Council, Central Regional Council, and Highland Regional Council.

He was elected as the MSP for Falkirk West following the May 2007 elections. Previous to that he was a Regional MSP for Central Scotland from 1999 to 2007. Before being appointed Minister for Public Health and Sport, Mr Matheson was Vice Convenor of the European and External Relations Committee. He also sat on the Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee, and previously served on the Justice and Enterprise and Culture Committees. Michael Matheson was appointed Cabinet Secretary for Justice in November 2014 and reappointed in May 2016.

He was re-elected in May 2011 and thereafter appointed as Minister for Public Health.

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Electric Vehicle Event

Thursday 8th October 2020



Professor Nick Antonopoulos
Vice Principal of Research and Innovation
Edinburgh Napier University

Nick joined Edinburgh Napier in January 2019 as Vice Principal - Research & Innovation from the University of Derby, where he was Pro Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) and Research Professor in Cloud Computing.

He has more than 20 years of academic and leadership experience, with a very strong background in initiating, leading and delivering improvements at an institutional level.

Nick has an excellent international reputation in his field, evidenced by his papers, books, chairing of prestigious conferences, and his active leadership of broad reaching research partnerships nationally and internationally. He has an extensive network across government, commerce and industry.

Nick's role oversees the Schools of Computing, Engineering & Built Environment and Health and Social Care as well as the Research, Innovation & Enterprise team.



Professor Tariq Muneer BEng (Hons) MSc, PhD, CEng,
FCIBSE, Millennium Fellow

Professor Muneer is a senior 'Energy Engineering' academic in Scotland. He was instrumental in setting up the Masters and Doctoral research and study programmes at Edinburgh Napier University. He also led the installation of charging stations for EVs at Napier and has extensively researched the performance of EVs. He is the author of Elsevier's monograph 'Electric Vehicles' that was published in 2017.

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Professor Pat Langdon, Interim Director of TRI Edinburgh Napier University

Professor Patrick Langdon is a Professor of Engineering Design, Transportation, and Inclusion at Edinburgh NAPIER School of Engineering and the Built Environment (SEBE). He is the acting head of the ENU Transport Research Institute. He is an Experimental Psychologist and has worked in AI, Robotics and Engineering Design for over 20 Years. Historically he has led research in Inclusive Engineering Design and contributed to its literature. Until recently he was a Reader (PRA) in at the University of Cambridge Engineering Department and led research there in Inclusive Design, Ergonomics and Human Factors. He was co-investigator and Cambridge lead for the joint EPSRC/Jaguar Land Rover funded programme, Towards Autonomy - Smart and Connected Control (TASCC), Designing Autonomy in Vehicles (HI:DAVe). He is a visiting Professor in Human Factors for Global Challenge at the University of East Anglia Computer Science Department 2019 – 2021. Between 2013 and 2019, Pat Langdon, whilst still at Cambridge, also initiated and ran a series of CAPE funded projects with Jaguar Land Rover based on combining Human Factors Engineering with advanced Machine Learning and AI techniques to address the very latest human interface issues facing automotive manufacturers.

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Andy Robinson
Head of Fleets, Infrastructure and Low Carbon Consumers
Low Carbon Economy Directorate
Transport Scotland

Andy is the Head of Ultra Low Emissions Fleets, Infrastructure and Low Carbon Consumers in Transport Scotland. He oversees the Scottish Government's investment programme designed to roll-out EV charging infrastructure across Scotland, promote ULEV uptake and encourage households and businesses in Scotland to switch to ULEV vehicles. He joined Transport Scotland in Oct 2018 and prior to that covered a variety of roles in the Scottish Government including working in research, housing regulation and domestic energy efficiency policy.



Jamie Pearson
Environmental Sustainability Manager
Edinburgh Napier University

Jamie Pearson has been employed as Environmental Sustainability Manager at Edinburgh Napier University since 2008. He works with the University community, external partners and a number of networks including the Environmental association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) to pursue opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of the University.

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Neil Leckie
Programme Manager, Programme Delivery
Energy Saving Trust

Neil has worked at the Energy Saving Trust for over 8 years and in his current role is responsible for delivering a number of programmes on behalf of Transport Scotland which support consumers and businesses to reduce the environmental impact of how they get from A to B. Neil is passionate about environmentalism and ensuring that the decarbonisation of transport is open and accessible to all.



Lynne Short was first elected as a councillor in 2016, and has served in a variety of roles including convener of the city development committee. She is currently depute convener of the community safety and public protection committee, older people's champion and spokesperson on equalities issues.

A proud Dundonian, Lynne has worn many hats in a wide and varied career, notably as a tour guide throughout Europe, property manager, surveyor and mum.

Passionate about low carbon transport, connectivity and social justice, Lynne is a tireless and fearless supporter of Dundee and its people.

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Stephen Rennie
Sales Director, Scotland - Connected Kerb Ltd

Stephen has worked in the electric vehicle industry in Scotland for the last 10 years. Initially this was spent with the Energy Saving Trust, setting up and managing grant schemes for domestic, workplace and local authority chargepoints. After a period managing the transport team in Scotland, Stephen moved to consulting and delivered projects on car club feasibility, biodiesel, CNG and electric vehicles with Transport and Travel Research. After 4 successful years at Swarco, Stephen now leads up Connected Kerb's work in Scotland – bringing experience of delivering Scotland's biggest EV infrastructure projects across both the public and private sectors.

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Nigel Holmes, Chief Executive of the Scottish Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association (SHFCA)

Scotland is one of the leading locations in Europe for deployment of Hydrogen and Fuel Cell into developing low carbon energy systems. Highlights include the expanding hydrogen bus fleet in Aberdeen and the Acorn project at St Fergus, hydrogen vehicles in Fife and plans for a 100% hydrogen demonstration network, and innovative projects in the Western Isles. The Orkney Islands are widely seen as exemplar clean energy islands, and are host to an increasing portfolio of hydrogen projects including the FCH-JU supported BIGHIT, the H2020 supported HySeas III development of the world's first ocean-going roll-on-roll-off hydrogen ferry, Surf 'n' Turf, HyDime, ITEG, ReFLEX, as well as the iconic HyFlyer and HySpirits projects.

The rapid growth of offshore wind in the North Sea together with the increasing demand for low carbon energy presents a very significant opportunity. Scotland has the potential to become a key supplier of low carbon hydrogen for decarbonisation of heat, transport, power, and industry around the North Sea.

Martin Whiteford, Partner Anderson Strathern

Martin is a Partner at Anderson Strathern, one of Scotland's largest independent law firms. He advises clients on the development of renewable energy projects with a focus on grid, construction and regulatory requirements.

Martin has advised on a number of prominent and innovative renewable energy projects including a wind turbine/hydrogen fuel cell energy system, an exemplar tidal power project, Scotland's largest solar project and Scotland's first gas-to-grid Anaerobic Digestion project. Martin received a Masters in Environmental Law and maintains a strong interest in the relationship between our built environment and the low carbon economy. Martin was recognised in the Legal 500 directory as a leading individual for energy work.



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Barry Carruthers
Head of Innovation, Sustainability & Quality
ScottishPower

Barry leads the Corporate Innovation, Sustainability and Quality function at ScottishPower. This ranges from strategic activities in the decarbonisation of transport and heat and other emerging technologies, to initiatives focused upon the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Following several years in ScottishPower Renewables where Barry led activities in marine energy and wind innovations, he now works across all ScottishPower divisions in order to foster innovations and sustainability across the sector.

Barry reports to Keith Anderson as ScottishPower's CEO as well as the Iberdrola Group's Chief Innovation & Sustainability Officer which includes working across all operating countries such as Spain, Portugal, USA, Mexico, Brazil and beyond. From 2017 to 2019, he undertook an MBA in the Global Energy Industry, through the University of Strathclyde Business School and ICADE at Comillas University in Madrid.



Sveinung André Kvalø
Senior adviser, Department of Analysis
and Advisory Services
Norwegian EV association

Sveinung André Kvalø has a Master's Degree in Economics from the University in Oslo. Sveinung has 20 years' experience with economic analyses on transport and energy in both private and public sector. He has worked with national climate policies and international climate negotiations and is one of the leading EV policy experts in Norway. He has extensive knowledge on environmental transport and sustainable urban development.