

# Yorkshire & North East Branch Newsletter

Spring 2022

## Faye Durkin takes up Branch Chair role

Faye Durkin, Head of Ecology and Regional Director at Ecus Ltd based in Sheffield, has been appointed Branch Chair for 2022-23.

She takes over from Kate Girling from Rural Solutions and will hold the role for 12 months. You can meet the other members of the committee on page 2 of this newsletter.

Faye specialises in ecological impact assessment and mitigation design. She said: “I’ve always been passionate about supporting inclusivity and have used my time as a Women in Property committee member to support Outreach initiatives in the Yorkshire and North East region, such as working with schools in underprivileged areas. This will be a real area of focus for us both regionally and nationally in 2022.



“Inclusivity has been a core value of Women in Property since its inception back in 1987 and our work continues with this at its heart. Now, the conversation is less about gender specifically and we must continue to break through the barriers, the preconceived ideas that still make it difficult for many people to succeed, whether because of gender, race, age, disability or social mobility.”

Andrew Gunning, MD of Ecus Ltd said, “Faye leads a team of ecologists and project managers and, as a member of the senior leadership team, also contributes to the wider development of the company. In this role Faye has proved to be a very effective leader who is trusted by her colleagues, clients and other key stakeholders. In addition, Faye is a great communicator, particularly with respect to disseminating information about complex topics such as ‘biodiversity net gain’, about which she is passionate. On this topic Faye has presented to many companies and organisations in the infrastructure, land development and governmental sectors and has also appeared on UK national TV news.

“I fully endorse Faye as Chair of the Yorkshire and North East Branch of Women in Property and am certain she will make a great success of the role.”

## Are you LinkedIn to our branch page?

Keep in touch with the latest news and events on our [Yorkshire & North East LinkedIn page](#). Don't forget to follow the page and get networking with fellow members.

Also, remember that as a member you can attend any Women in Property event that is taking place across the UK, even if it is being hosted by a different branch. See all events [here](#).

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## Events

- [Yorkshire & North East Virtual Back to Work Coffee Morning](#)  
Virtual, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 10.00am
- [Step into Spring Netwalking](#)  
Newcastle, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 12.00pm
- [How to become a confident, empowering speaker – Part 2](#)  
Virtual, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 6.30pm
- [Mentoring Training Session](#)  
Virtual, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 12.30pm
- [Restoration Tour at Wentworth Woodhouse](#)  
Rotherham, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 3.00pm
- [Site Tour of 'The Place'](#)  
Leeds, 19<sup>th</sup> May 7.45am

## Got an idea?

We're always keen to ensure you get maximum benefit from being a member of Women in Property.

If you've got an idea for an event or webinar, would like to sponsor a webinar – or simply have a great idea that you think will add value, then please get in touch with a member of the committee.

[Visit the branch page of the Women in Property website.](#)

# Meet the 2022/23 committee

Many thanks to our regional committee who meet every month to ensure the smooth running of the branch. From budgets and membership to events and mentoring there's lots to discuss.

We thought you'd like to find out more about them so here's a snapshot:



**Name:** Faye Durkin  
**Position:** Chair  
**Day Job:** Regional Manager, Ecus  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to be like Michaela Strachan or David Attenborough and help to save the planet by teaching people about wildlife.



**Name:** Helen Randerson  
**Position:** Vice Chair  
**Day Job:** Land Director, Gleeson Homes  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to work in a bank so I could give away all the money!!



**Name:** Helen Revitt  
**Position:** Membership  
**Day Job:** Regional Director, AHR  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to do something arty and a college tutor suggested an architecture degree.



**Name:** Jennifer Winyard  
**Position:** Mentoring/Events  
**Day Job:** Strategic Land & Planning Manager, Barratt Developments PLC  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** An architect



**Name:** Monica Green  
**Position:** PR/Social Media  
**Day Job:** Director, The Partners Group  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** An English teacher or a journalist but then I heard about PR as a career.



**Name:** Tomasin Reilly  
**Position:** Treasurer  
**Day Job:** Senior Associate, Clyde & Co  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to be a dancer.



**Name:** Hannah Richardson  
**Position:** Student Tsarina  
**Day Job:** Associate Director, Spawforths  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to be a teacher as I loved school or a mounted police officer as I wanted to work with horses..



**Name:** Sarah Wills  
**Position:** Sheffield Events  
**Day Job:** Associate Director nineteen47 Ltd  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** A graphic designer or work in planning/regeneration.



**Name:** Jenny Kitchen  
**Position:** Sponsorship  
**Day Job:** Head of Business Development, Perspectives Ltd  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to be an actor but I was told to get a "proper" job.



**Name:** Kelly Brown  
**Position:** Secretary  
**Day Job:** Junior Associate, CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to be a Blue Peter presenter.



**Name:** Katie McManus  
**Position:** NW Link/Outreach  
**Day Job:** Development Surveyor, HBD  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** A police officer like my parents, or one of the Red Arrows.



**Name:** Kate Girling  
**Position:** Events  
**Day Job:** Associate Director, Rural Solutions  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I don't remember having any particular ambitions as a child. I was a bit of a daydreamer!



**Name:** Corinne Hall  
**Position:** Events  
**Day Job:** Associate Director, Whittam Cox Architects  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to be a jockey, but soon found out that this career was unlikely to be open to me with a family all over 6ft!



**Name:** Zoe Murphy  
**Position:** Events Coordinator  
**Day Job:** Real Estate Associate, Mills & Reeve



**Name:** Rachael Martin  
**Position:** Events  
**Day Job:** Associate, ID Planning  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I lurched from teacher, to physiotherapist to wanting to join the army and ended up in Planning as I liked Geography best and Town Planning seemed like a good fit.

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**Name:** Alex Howe  
**Position:** Events  
**Day Job:** Associate, Head of Marketing – North Region, BDP  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** A jazz singer - my family love to sing and I grew up listening to Eartha Kitt and Ella Fitzgerald.



**Name:** Joanne Sears  
**Position:** Events  
**Day Job:** Senior Associate, Gateley Legal  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** When I was young, I wanted to be a lawyer. Dreams can come true!



**Name:** Kate Ashworth  
**Position:** NE Events  
**Day Job:** Managing Associate, Planning and Infrastructure, Womble Bond Dickinson  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** I wanted to be a vet and work with animals. I was invited to watch an operation by a family friend when I was about 13, but unfortunately did not fare well in the operating theatre!



**Name:** Lucie Barnes  
**Position:** Lancs & Cumbria  
**Day Job:** Senior Associate, Brodies Solicitors  
**What I wanted to be when I was younger:** Lady wrestler. I was obsessive about WWE when I was a kid. Being a disputes lawyer is pretty much the same thing

## Reaching out

The Outreach Committee is made up of seven dedicated members who have organised many events since Autumn 2021 such as coffee mornings, mind resilience training and school activities. The next activity on our agenda is Get up to Speed with STEM this month, where Women in Property will be showcasing property careers to young people in partnership with TB+A (event sponsor). The back to work coffee morning returns virtually on 5th April - keep your eyes peeled for booking details.

Jennie Watts of RMBC sits on the committee as an advisor to our school-pupil-age outreach programme. There are many education engagement activities to get involved with individually; For example, the ESF Business and Education Alliance Project and the Enterpriser Advisor Network. Please get in touch with the committee with any queries/feedback:

Katie McManus, HBD  
 Jenny Kitchen, Brentwood  
 Marianne McCallum, Yorkshire Water  
 Jill Hoggan, TB+A

Chris Pipe, Planning House  
 Faye Davies, Ecus

## New Members

Claire Archer	Norton Rose Fulbright LLP
Kelly Brown	CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang
Louise Butterfield	Trustmgt
Kate Curtis	Pegasus Planning Group Ltd
Sophie Dann	South Lakes Housing
Sara Foster	Apleona Workspace
Laura Garcia	Pegasus Planning Group Ltd
Yun Hon Han	Hydrock MRB Ltd
Suzie Harte	The Ambitious Group
Patricia Kilty	Coniston Keys Ltd
Lisa Maguire	South Lakes Housing
Laura Ruxton	Corstorphine & Wright
Melissa Smith	Castle Owen Construction & Property Consultants Ltd
Helen Walker	Bowman Riley
Weronika Waronska	Trustmgt

## Member news

**Helen Randerson** has been promoted to Land Director for Gleeson Homes in West Yorkshire. **Kate Girling** has been promoted to Associate Director at Rural Solutions. **April Marsden** has been promoted to Senior Associate and **Samantha Jevons** has been promoted to Associate at Bowman Riley Architects. **Marianne McCallum** has left the planning consultancy world and started a new role as Estates Planning Manager at Yorkshire Water. **Joanne Neville** has been promoted to Regional Head of Planning (Yorkshire and Central) at Harworth Group plc.



**Hannah Richardson** MRTPI, Associate Director at Spawforths, has been included on The Planner's Women of Influence List 2022. This is a non-ranked list of 50 influential women in planning, published on International Women's Day. There were 133 women nominated, and to be chosen means Hannah has shown influence over five areas including culture change in planning, the new and developing generations of planners, and the reputation of the profession.

"Hannah is a highly visible example of a successful women in an often male dominated environment. As a strong female role model, she empowers and supports other women across both our business and within Yorkshire and the North East"



In November 2021, **Karen Mosley**, Managing Director of HLM Architects, was inaugurated as the 114th President of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce. Only the third female to take up the post in the history of the Chamber, Karen has outlined the focus of her presidency as addressing skills throughout the region.

Reflecting on her journey from an apprentice aged 17 to becoming Managing Director in 2017, Karen's passion for increasing opportunities and breaking down barriers has led to her chairing the South Yorkshire Skills Accelerator Board. Karen was also awarded two Institute of Directors Awards in 2021 in the Small to Medium Business and the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion categories.

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