

Executive Group Members

Chair - Michael Longstaffe

Chief Executive Officer, Smith Anderson

Michael was appointed Chief Executive Officer of [Smith Anderson](#) in April 2011. He supports a great management team in their delivery of the Company's strategy and vision, focussing particularly on quality, innovation and service.

Evolving through international sales and marketing disciplines, Michael has worked in FMCG and packaging companies since graduating from Edinburgh University in 1987. Originally at Whyte & Mackay Distillers in Glasgow, he moved through the printing ink industry into Smith Anderson Group 23 years ago. Michael is personally responsible for the Company's largest single account (McDonald's Restaurants) which he has managed for almost 22 years. He has recently held positions as Vice President of Pack2go Europe and as a board member of the UK Foodservice Packaging Association (FPA). As well as sitting on a number of local boards, including Fife Chamber of Commerce, Michael has recently taken up the Chairmanship of the Fife Economy Partnership.



Michael married Sally in 1992 and they have three daughters. He is a motorsport 'fanatic', campaigning a 1970 racing MG Midget, and also enjoys shooting, skiing and golf.



Vice-Chair – Ian Palmer

Managing Director, John Fergus and Co Ltd

After more than 30 years in the Scotch Whisky Industry, Ian formed [John Fergus & Co Ltd](#) in 2011 and today is its Managing Director. In 2014, the company started constructing the InchDairnie Distillery in Glenrothes. This innovative new distillery, which commenced production in 2015, produces whiskies for both blending and single malt, using many new techniques to produce whiskies of distinctive flavours.

Ian started his working career with Invergordon Distillers at its grain distillery in Invergordon. He moved to Edinburgh following the company's acquisition by Whyte and Mackay to manage the company's bottling operation before taking over the role of Operations Director. After more than 25 years with the company, he moved on to build the Glen Turner company in Bathgate before striking it out on his own to found John Fergus & Co Ltd.

Ian is married to Linda and they have a son and a daughter.

John Penman

Managing Director, Fife Fabrications

John Penman is Managing Director of [Fife Fabrications Ltd](#), one of the UK's foremost advanced manufacturers of precision sheet-metalwork, electro-mechanical assemblies and precision machined components. He leads a great team at FiFab in the delivery of the company's objectives, long term objectives, service, quality and people development. A fellow of the Institute of Sales Management and with over 30 years' service at FiFab, he is passionate about the development of the young workforce.

John Penman was a non-executive director of Business Gateway Fife from 2009 to 2017 and chaired the BGF Board from 2010 to 2017. He is a member of the Executive Committee for Scottish Engineering and a board member of Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Fife.



John was born in Fife and stays with his family in Lochgelly. He enjoys watching football.



Stephen Hall
Managing Director, FLEXcon Europe Ltd

Currently MD of [FLEXcon Europe Ltd](#), Stephen was born in Glasgow and graduated in engineering before working as an engineer with IBM, Unisys and Compaq Computer where he moved into management. After management roles with Motorola, Alcatel Submarine Networks and Toyota in England, Stephen moved back to Scotland joining FLEXcon Europe Ltd as plant manager. From 2013 he moved out with his family to Hong Kong to establish FLEXcon Asia Ltd, returning to manage FLEXcon Europe Ltd as MD in 2018.

Manufacturers of coated and laminated film or adhesives, FLEXcon Europe Ltd's manufacturing base is in Glenrothes and warehouse and distribution base just outside Amsterdam. The business is successful and Stephen has several large investments to make. With 65% of the company's raw materials coming from central Europe and 85% of sales in Central Europe, a lot of Stephen's time is currently spent trying to figure out BREXIT.

Stephen is married with two children and in his limited leisure time he's a keen tennis player and cyclist, also enjoying rowing and skiing. He also owns a classic car.

Ian Wilkie
Managing Director, Leviton

Ian joined [Brand-Rex Limited](#) in 2001 and held a number of senior management roles in the company prior to taking up the role of Managing Director in 2016, following Leviton's acquisition of the company. In the UK, Leviton has two factories, supporting distinct market areas. The Glenrothes HQ and data cable factory supply high end cable and connectivity solutions that connect IT networks, whether they be in schools, offices, hospitals or datacentres. The Leigh factory makes high temperature and hostile environment cables that are used in automotive, marine and industrial applications. The company turns over £90M and employs around 400 people in the UK. Around 75% of sales are made outside the UK, mainly in Europe.



Ian grew up in Dundee, and has a degree in Electrical & Electronic Engineering from Abertay University. Ian previously worked with Michelin in Dundee and BICC Cables in North West England. Today, Ian lives in the rural Angus hills on the outskirts of Dundee with his wife Tracey (and cat) enjoying the beautiful Fife countryside commute on a daily basis.



Phillip Thompson
Chair, FEP Innovation Group
Director and European Regional Leader, Thornton Tomasetti

Phillip is a Director and European Regional Leader for [Thornton Tomasetti](#), the international multidisciplinary science and engineering consultancy. A Chartered Physicist with a background in Defence, Security and Counter-Terrorism, Phill oversees all of Thornton Tomasetti's business in the UK, Europe and Australia, comprising 162 technical staff across 12 office locations in the UK, Denmark and Australia.

A key goal of Thornton Tomasetti is to be the global driver of change and innovation within its industry and so a large part of Phill's role is driving growth through research and innovation while also pursuing strategic merger and acquisition (M&A) opportunities with a strong cultural geographic and technical fit.

Colin Brown
Chair, FEP Investment Group
Burness Paull



Colin is a Director in [Burness Paull's](#) property division, dealing with all aspects of commercial property work, with a particular focus on commercial development and commercial leasing from a landlord and tenant perspective.

He has extensive experience in the acquisition and disposal of shopping centres, hotels and farms and his current clients include Shepherd Offshore (Scotland) Limited (who own the former Freescale facility at Dunfermline), Mars Pension Trustees Limited (owners of the Kingdom and Mercat Shopping Centres), Splendid Hospitality Group (owners of the Express by Holiday Inn in Glenrothes), along with other developer and property owning clients.



Councillor Altany Craik
Fife Council

Altany was elected to Fife Council as a Labour Councillor in 2012 and after serving as Glenrothes Area Chair, became the council's Finance and Corporate Service Spokesperson until the local government elections in 2017. In the current administration, he is the Convener of the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning and Transportation Committee.

Altany's working life began in retail before he moved into industry as a materials controller with Tullis Russell, Babygro and Sun Microsystems in Linlithgow. After completing a degree in Management, he carried out further studies in Accounting and Economics followed by a move into lecturing at the former Adam Smith College.

His interests include writing, esports and football.

Gordon Mole
Chief Officer for Business and Employability
Fife Council



Gordon joined Fife Council in 2016 and is the senior lead for Employability, Economy Development, Economic Policy, Town Centres and Tourism. Gordon also leads on the development of Fife projects for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland and Tay Cities Deals.

Gordon has a particular interest in collaborative working between national, local and third sector agencies for employability and employer engagement and chairs the Opportunities Fife Partnership Employer Engagement Delivery Group. He is also a board member of Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Fife.

Before joining Fife Council, Gordon was Head of Culture and Environmental Services at Ipswich Borough Council. He was previously Employer and Brokerage Manager for Crossrail and has led on economic development, responsible procurement and employment initiatives for major construction programmes, including London's Shard of Glass, Heathrow Terminal 5 and Tate Modern.

Gordon has provided policy advice to local, regional and national government on the Work Programme, re-use of electronic waste, social enterprise and employment of military veterans. He holds a MA (Hons) in Religious Studies from the University of Edinburgh and an MSc in Development Planning from University College London. Gordon is on the board of the Institute of Economic Development.



Alan Mitchell
Chief Executive, Fife Chamber of Commerce

Alan became Chief Executive of [Fife Chamber of Commerce](#) in June 2016. Previous senior positions include Chief Executive of Dundee and Angus Chamber of Commerce (2007 to 2012) and Membership Director at CBI Scotland (2001 to 2007).

He is a board member of Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Fife and Career Ready Fife.

Alan was born, and currently lives, in Dundee and studied at the University of Strathclyde. His Interests include music and sport.

Derek Watson
Quaestor and Factor, University of St Andrews

A member of the Principal's Office, Derek is responsible for providing strategic leadership in the overall development of the [University of St Andrew's](#) non-academic services.

Within this overall leadership role he has line management responsibility for a portfolio of University support functions including Finance, IT Services, Estates, Residential and Business Services, Sport, Business Transformation, Legal Services, Planning and Procurement.



Derek is also Chief Executive of St Andrews Applied Research Ltd (StAAR). StAAR, which is wholly owned by the University, provides focussed oversight for all of the University's entrepreneurial, spin-out and commercial activities. StAAR was established in this role in late 2018 to drive the delivery of the University's strategic theme of Entrepreneurial St Andrews and covers current and emerging activities within the UK and around the world.

Additionally, he is the lead employer nominated Trustee of the St Andrews Superannuation and Life Assurance Scheme; the main Pension Scheme for the University's non-academic staff.

Derek joined the University in December 2002 as Financial Controller coming from NHS Scotland where he was Deputy Director of Finance and Property Development Manager of an NHS Trust. He was appointed Quaestor and Factor in 2003; on appointment he carried the 'traditional' portfolio for this title (Director of Finance and Resources). He was promoted to his current position of Chief Operating Officer in March 2011.



Sue Reekie
Chief Operating Officer, Fife College

Sue, who joined [Fife College](#) in January 2019 as Chief Operating Officer, is a member of the Executive Team and is responsible for Estates, HR, Marketing, Digital and the Scottish Prison Service Teams.

Prior to joining the college, Sue was a partner at Mercer, a global consulting firm, where she held various roles over 17 years including Profit and Loss (P&L) responsibility. Before joining Mercer, Sue worked for 12 years for UK government agencies.

Sue has worked in various UK cities and has lived and worked in the US and Asia. She has been a resident of Fife for over 10 years.

Elaine Morrison

Regional Head of Partnerships, Scottish Enterprise

Elaine is Head of Partnerships within [Scottish Enterprise](#), Scotland's national economic development agency. Her work involves identifying opportunities to achieve inclusive economic growth across the Edinburgh and South East City and South of Scotland Regions. Having worked in the public sector for more than 30 years, Elaine is an experienced economic development professional having created and delivered a wide range of tools, techniques and services across the innovation, R&D, commercialisation and entrepreneurship landscape. Before her current role, Elaine was leading a series of account management teams across Scotland, supporting growth from business and responding to economic shocks to minimise impact on local communities.



Based in Glasgow, when not working Elaine is most likely to be found entertaining her grand-daughter who she openly admits is the best boss she has ever had!

Stephen White

Head – Place-Based Economic Development, Scottish Government

Stephen is currently Head of the Economic Partnerships Team in the [Scottish Government's Economic Development Directorate](#). He has worked for the Scottish Government for over 10 years in a variety of policy roles including higher education, private rented housing and community regeneration. Prior to joining the Scottish Government, Stephen held a number of posts in house organisations over 20 years.

Supporting the Executive Group

Keith Winter

Executive Director – Enterprise and Environment, Fife Council

Appointed Executive Director of Fife Council's Enterprise, Environment and Community's Directorate in July 2013, Keith is now in role as Executive Director Enterprise and Environment since April 2016. He is a delivery lead for the Fife Community Planning Partnership on Inclusive Growth and Jobs.

Keith joined the council in 2003 as Head of Development Services, assuming the post of Head of Enterprise, Planning and Protective Services in April 2011.

He has a strong background in local government, having started a career in planning at Birmingham and then Coventry City Councils going on to have a variety of roles at Dundee City Council. Before joining Fife Council, Keith was Executive Director Corporate Services at South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council. He has also had a spell in private practice with consultants Michael Courcier Associates in Bolton

Keith is a board member on Fife Chamber of Commerce, Fife Environment Trust, University of Dundee Court, and Improvement Service Scotland.

Originally from Dundee, Keith has a degree in town and regional planning from the University of Dundee's Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, and an MBA from the University of Abertay Dundee.





Sandra Montador-Stewart

Service Manager, Economy, Planning & Employability Services, Fife Council

Sandra has held the post of Service Manager of the Economy, Tourism and Town Centres team in Fife Council's Economy, Planning and Employability Services since March 2009, having joined the council in 1995 in what was then Planning and Economic Development Services.

In her current position, Sandra leads a team of 24 and is responsible for economic policy and partnership, tourism policy and partnership, events funding, employability policy and partnership, town centres and economic regeneration and research and information.

Sandra holds an MA (Hons) in Geography from the University of Dundee and a Post Graduate Diploma in Regional and Town Planning from Edinburgh College of Art/Heriot Watt University and is a corporate member of the Royal Town Planning Institute.