

Annual meet-up for mortgage professionals

Wednesday, 18th September 2024

Speaker biographies will be added to this page as and when we receive them.

Paul Broadhead

Head of Mortgage and Housing Policy, Building Societies Association



Paul was born in Manchester and started his career with the then Halifax Building Society. He played a key role in the implementation of FSA mortgage regulation within Halifax plc in 2004. He joined the BSA and set up its mortgage team in November 2008. Paul is a frequent media commentator and conference speaker on matters relating to mortgages and housing in the UK. He is also a member of the Consumer Policy Working Group of the European Association of Co-operative Banks.

Paul lives in Crick, Northamptonshire and enjoys spending his weekends watching his sons play sport and following Northampton Town up and down the country.

Richard Donnell

Executive Director, Houseful



Richard is a leading property industry figure best known for delivering insight and strategic advice on the residential and mortgage markets.

He runs thought leadership at Houseful, the leading software, data and insight business in residential property. Houseful owns and operates market-leading brands including Zoopla, Alto, Jupix, Hometrack, Calcasa, PrimeLocation and Mojo mortgages.

Richard delivers market leading insight for industry and policy makers across emerging housing trends, housing development, mortgage lending and investment. He appears regularly in the media on the key aspects of housing that matter to consumers and business.

Richard started his career at Savills, then joined analytics business Hometrack which was acquired by Zoopla in 2017.

Peter Tutton

Head of Policy, StepChange Debt Charity



Peter Tutton is head of policy at StepChange Debt Charity, having joined the charity in April 2012. Peter previously served as social policy officer dealing with debt and credit policy at Citizen's Advice (2004-2012). Prior to that Peter worked as head of the debt advice unit and a debt advisor at Citizen's Advice.

Thomas Francis

Mortgage Policy - Manager, Financial Conduct Authority



Thomas is responsible for the development of mortgage policy at the Financial Conduct Authority, and has led its Mortgage Policy team since February 2023. He previously led the FCA's teams responsible for setting international standards and cross-border supervision and cooperation. Thomas has also been a supervisor of some of the UK's largest building societies, and seconded to the UK Permanent Representation to the EU between 2015-2019, and the Treasury Select Committee in 2014.

Chris Busey

Mortgages & Housing Policy Manager, Building Societies Association



Chris Busey is a Policy Manager with the BSA and covers housing policy on behalf members. His areas of expertise include green finance and home decarbonisation. He also covers building safety, property risk, and the UK housing market more broadly.

Amelia Williams

Lead Product Manager, Homes at Nationwide Building Society

Amelia is a Lead Product Manager at Nationwide in the Homes team, and has worked in mortgage policy and product design for over 5 years. She is the Society's lead on green mortgage propositions, and developed the 0% Green Additional Borrowing proposition in 2023 to support more customers in achieving a more energy efficient home.

Annie Heaton

Group Head of Sustainability, Skipton Building Society



Annie is the Interim Group Head of Sustainability at Skipton Building Society. She works closely with the Skipton Group companies, including Connells Estate Agency, Skipton International Limited, Jade Software and Skipton Business Finance to support them in their development and execution of their net zero journeys. She draws on risk experience working in Group Internal Audit, and before this, a career in educational leadership.

Robin Fieth

Chief Executive, Building Societies Association



Robin joined the Building Societies Association (BSA) as Chief Executive in December 2013. Previously he was Executive Director, Members and Operations at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). Robin originally joined the ICAEW in 2002 as Director of Finance. During his career, he has also held a number of other senior positions in the corporate sector, including Group Finance Director and Company Secretary at AIM listed Transacsys plc. He spent the first 10 years of his career with PwC.

The BSA is the voice of building societies in the UK, speaking out on issues relevant to building societies and their members (savers and borrowers). Together, building societies serve over 25 million customers across the UK; have total assets of over £500 billion and have a 23% market share of the residential mortgage market, and 19% share of the savings market.

Robin is a fellow of the ICAEW, a non-executive director of Co-operatives UK and a member of the General Assembly of the European Association of Co-operative Banks. He is married with three grown-up children.

Maria Harris

Chair, Open Property Data Association



Maria is Chair of the Open Property Data Association which she launched after running the Home Buying & Selling technology group for 2 years. OPDA is the trade association responsible for managing and developing our open property data standards across government and industry.

Maria also provides mortgage transformation services to lenders and tech firms through her consultancy firm, Digital Cat, as well as being a Non-Exec Director at United Trust Bank and board advisor to a number of proptech and fintech firms including Coadjute. Previously the Director of Lending at Atom bank where she designed, built, and launched the first fully digital mortgage in the UK.

With almost 30 years' experience in management, Maria has held roles across a number of sectors including travel, utilities and more recently in financial services where she was awarded the inaugural Women in Finance Award for services to banking by HM Treasury. She is a vocal advocate for equality, diversity, and the role of technology in improving financial wellbeing and the customer experience.