

Northern Ireland Environment Forum 2020

The environment: New deal, new decade



Wednesday 25th November 2020 • Online conference

In association with



Sponsored by



The environment: New deal, new decade

The Northern Ireland Environment Forum 2020, supported by the Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs and Carson McDowell, is Northern Ireland's major annual conference on environmental policy and management.

The theme of this year's virtual conference is 'new deal, new decade'. With the restoration of the Northern Ireland Assembly, we now have the opportunity to drive Northern Ireland's environmental policy forward. Climate change and how we protect our environment for future generations is a global issue as well as a local one.

The Forum provides an important opportunity for all the key players in the environment sector to come together for a day of online discussion. Alongside the visiting experts, the Northern Ireland Environment Forum will be addressed by the key people in Northern Ireland's environmental policy landscape as we anticipate new legislation including a new environment strategy and a clean air strategy.

The conference will be of interest to delegates representing all the main sectors with an interest in Northern Ireland's environment at this pivotal time for the sector.

Discussion topics include:

- ✓ Policy priorities for Northern Ireland's environment;
- ✓ Meeting the challenge of climate change;
- ✓ Biodiversity, air quality and other strategic issues;
- ✓ Resource management and the circular economy;
- ✓ Water quality and waste water treatment;
- ✓ Environment and planning; and
- ✓ Clean and inclusive growth and a Green New Deal.

speaker panel



Dave Foster is Director of Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy at the **Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs**. He is responsible for policy and legislation in relation to environmental regulation, natural resources (including air, water and biodiversity) and agri-environment. Dave was previously Director of Environmental Protection with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency and has also worked for the Environment Agency for England and Wales in a variety of operational and policy roles.



Grant McBurney has been a member of the Planning and Environmental Law team within **Carson McDowell** since 2005. Grant advises on waste and contamination land matters, renewable energy projects, as well as providing planning and environmental due diligence support to the Corporate team. He is a member of the Environmental and Planning Law Association of Northern Ireland, sitting on its committee and the UK Environmental Law Association. He is also a corporate member of Quarry Products Association for Northern Ireland. Grant is described as "highly professional and very efficient" in the Chambers and Partners UK Guide 2020.



Carl Nichols joined circular economy experts **WRAP** in 2004 and held several senior roles before being appointed Head of WRAP Cymru in April 2014. He is responsible for developing and delivering WRAP's ambitious multi-million pound work programme in Wales, managing the relationship with the Welsh Government and leading the WRAP Cymru team. His extensive leadership experience includes management positions at Royal Mail, RAC and Severn Trent Water, and as an interim manager working with high profile multi-nationals. Carl holds an MBA from Warwick Business School and an MSc in Environmental Engineering from the University of Newcastle. He is also Chair of Cardiff Food Council, a Parkrun Ambassador and a Trustee of a multi-academy trust.



Tim Walker is the acting Chief Executive of **arc21**, an umbrella waste management partnership representing 6 councils in Northern Ireland, who look to manage and develop waste facilities. Before that, Tim headed up waste management in Belfast City Council and oversaw a more than tenfold increase in the Council's recycling rate (to circa 45%). He was responsible for the planning and delivery of waste and recycling services, and for fleet – a service with over 400 staff and a budget of around £30M. During much of this time, Tim sat on or chaired a variety of boards, advising elected representatives and chief executives and currently sits on the Strategic Investment Board's Circular Economy Working Group.



John FitzGerald is one of Ireland's leading economists and a Research Affiliate with the **Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)** and an Adjunct Professor in TCD and UCD. He was a member of the Northern Ireland Authority for Energy Regulation from 2003 to 2006 and he is currently Chairman of Ireland's Climate Change Advisory Council.



Jennifer Fulton joined **Ulster Wildlife** in 2012 leading the charity which aims to inspire people to value nature and deliver programmes of action to protect and restore NI's habitats and ecosystems and provide natural solutions for climate change. Prior to that, she has had an interesting and diverse career with roles including working within the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, as NI Director of Development for Citizens Advice and then as a change manager for local Councils in Mid & East area for the Reform of Public Administration. Trustee roles have included Directorships on the UK Council for The Wildlife Trusts, Rural Support, Chief Officers 3.

conference programme

09.00 Chairman's welcome and introduction

09.00 CONFERENCE PLENARY

Chairman's introduction: Owen McQuade, Managing Director, agendaNi

MINISTERIAL ADDRESS:

Edwin Poots MLA Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs *(invited)*

Air *Air quality in Northern Ireland*
Dave Foster, Director of Regulatory & Natural Resources Policy, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Brexit *Navigating the environment post-Brexit*
Viviane Gravey, Lecturer, School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy & Politics QUB

Legal *Environmental legal update*
Grant McBurney, Partner, Carson McDowell

Visiting Speaker *Towards a Welsh circular economy*
Carl Nichols, Head of WRAP, WRAP Cymru

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

11.00 COMFORT BREAK

11.30 CONFERENCE PLENARY

Water *Water quality in Northern Ireland*
Presented by NI Water

Agriculture *Can we develop sustainable land use policy for Northern Ireland?*
John Martin, Chair of the Sustainable Land Use Sub-group, Nature Matters NI

Biodiversity *Protecting Northern Ireland's wildlife and habitats*
Jennifer Fulton, Chief Executive, Ulster Wildlife

Circular Economy *Resource efficiency: Reusing and recycling*
Tim Walker, Chief Executive, arc21

Circular Economy *Creating green and sustainable communities through engagement*
Ian Humphreys, Chief Executive, Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

13.15 LUNCH BREAK

14.00 AFTERNOON SESSION: CLIMATE

A strategy for meeting Ireland's climate change challenge
John FitzGerald, Chair, Climate Change Advisory Council

The impact of climate change on Northern Ireland's economy
John Barry, Professor of Green Political Economy, School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy & Politics QUB

Responding to the impacts of climate change in Northern Ireland
Jane McCullough, Manager, Climate NI

15.15 COMFORT BREAK

15.30 AFTERNOON SESSION

Environmental Crime in Northern Ireland
Faye Phillips, Associate, Carson McDowell

Reducing Northern Ireland's carbon footprint
Robin Curry, Lecturer, School of Chemistry & Chemical Engineering, QUB

Climate change: Impact on Northern Ireland's built environment
Ciarán Fox, Chair, Climate Northern Ireland Partnership

Question & answer session / Panel discussion

16.45 CONFERENCE CLOSE

conference registration form

I wish to

- Reserve _____ delegate places at the conference
Conference delegate fee £175 + VAT @ 20% = £210
- NGO rate £125 + VAT @ 20% = £150

Personal details

Name: _____

Job title: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Cancellations / Substitutions

For those unable to attend, a substitute delegate may be sent at any time for no additional charge. Please note once purchased, places cannot be cancelled.

Acknowledgement of registration

Confirmation of registration will be emailed to all delegates following receipt of registration details. If you have not received your acknowledgement within 48 hours of registering, please contact registration@agendaNi.com to confirm your booking.

Who should register

This full day conference should be attended by key stakeholders from across Northern Ireland's environment sector, including:

- Environmental policy-makers
- Regulators
- Planning professionals
- Elected representatives
- Local government officers
- Environmental consultants & advisors
- Environmental managers
- Developers and construction companies
- Waste management companies
- Legal and financial advisors
- NGOs/Environmental charities
- Academics

Payment options

I enclose a cheque for £ _____
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