

David Metcalfe – Chair of Job Strategy Group

David joined LTSB Scotland in May 2004 (as Head of Wholesale Banking Development) from Scottish Widows where he was Project Director, Corporate Offers. Prior to joining LTSB Group he spent 13 years with Bank of Scotland in a number of departments including Specialist Finance, Commercial Banking, Product Management and Private Banking. A graduate of Stirling University, he is a Fellow of the Institute of Bankers in Scotland and is currently Vice Chair of the Direct Marketing Association UK and Independent Chair of the Edinburgh Jobs Strategy Group. David is currently on a short secondment with Inspiring Scotland helping to set up the 14-19 Fund which aims to help the voluntary sector make real and lasting changes to the social issues affecting teenagers who are not in employment, education or training.

Alastair MacDonald - Jobcentre Plus Customer Services Director Scotland

Appointed to current post on 31 March 2008 and previously worked in the Home Office in the Border and Immigration Agency (BIA). Worked at a number of air and sea ports, latterly specialising in enforcement work. Has also been the Scotland manager for immigration and more recently involved in national programmes to professionalise immigration operations. Most recently was working on development of the Government's immigration enforcement strategy, which is about tackling harm, creating cross-government partnerships and addressing immigration related crime.

Bill Wilson - District Manager, Jobcentre Plus

Bill began his career in a Northern Region Unemployment Benefit office in 1974. He gained promotion in 1980 and moved to Essex. After progression, he spent 6 years in London as a Senior Executive Officer before becoming District Manager in Reading in 1996. During this time, he rolled out the Government's flagship programme, New Deal. 1999 saw him move to Grampian, Moray, Orkney and Shetland as District Manager with the Employment Service and he moved to Tayside in 2001. He became Jobcentre Plus District Manager for Edinburgh, Lothian and Borders on 4 May 2004.

Jim Rafferty - Chief Executive, Capital City Partnership

A not for profit company, the Capital City Partnership is Edinburgh's city wide social inclusion partnership. It, from an early stage, took the view that the most effective route to inclusion for most people was through finding and sustaining employment in Edinburgh's robust labour market. The partnership's Joined up for Jobs strategy was launched in 2001 by Alastair Darling MP and remains the basis for the City Strategy. Jim has been Chief Executive since 2000 and chairs the Jobs Strategy Group which leads and implements the strategy.

Paul Gierthy - Regional Director, Careers Scotland

Paul's remit extends well beyond Edinburgh and he has overseen the organisation's transformation into an all age guidance service relating this nationally to the main labour market programmes provided through Scottish Enterprise. Careers Scotland also provide Careers guidance services to schools throughout the region and in that context is the lead partner in the Partnership's efforts to minimise the instance of school leavers going on to 'negative' (Not in Employment Education or Training) destinations after their school career.

Roger Horam - Senior Officer Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce

Responsible for the Chamber's labour market and training operations and for supporting SME members in their business growth. The Chamber is the City Strategy Partnership's lead connection to Edinburgh's large and varied collection of private sector employers and Roger has a wide range of experience in bringing through programmes which are demand led and client centred, meeting the needs of employers and of disadvantaged groups in the labour market.

Ray Harris - Principal and Chief Executive of Edinburgh's Telford College, and Chair of Edinburgh and Lothian Colleges Group

On the Jobs Strategy Group, the Edinburgh colleges (Telford, Stevenson and Jewel and Esk) are represented by Ray Harris. Ray is a statistician by profession and has a background of senior positions in both further and higher education. He is currently chair of the Scottish Executive's Renewable Energy Skills Development Group and represents the Association of Scotland's Colleges as a Director of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Company.

Dave Anderson – Director of City Development, City of Edinburgh Council

Formerly a senior Director of operations at Scottish Enterprise, Edinburgh and Lothians, Dave brings to his new post a wealth of experience in skills, business development and regeneration. In his previous post at SEEL post with SEEL was responsible for a budget of £57 million, delivering economic development programmes, business infrastructure support for key industries and a range of skills development programmes for young people, unemployed adults and employees of small and medium sized enterprises. He was one of the founding directors of Enterprise Ayrshire and Chief Executive of Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire where he played a major role in the regeneration of Clydebank, the Clyde Waterfront and Loch Lomond Shores.

Greg Ward – Head of Economic Development, City of Edinburgh Council

Greg Ward has just taken up the post of Head of Economic Development. Greg's previous role was with the South East England Development Agency. He will lead on the day-to-day management of the Glasgow-Edinburgh Collaboration Initiative, Edinburgh Business Association liaison, Business Gateway and Local Regeneration (both transferring from Scottish Enterprise), communication with Key Sector partners and Edinburgh Tourism Action Plan.

Marion Nicholson – Skills Team Manager, Skills Development Scotland

An Edinburgh University graduate, Marion has worked in employment advisory, marketing, staff training and project manager roles. Her work with the Employment Service prior to joining Scottish Enterprise in 1991, gave her direct experience of getting long-term unemployed adults into work. Since joining Scottish Enterprise, she moved from a project manager to team manager role and in 2000-2002 spearheaded the public sector Motorola/ NEC Redundancy Response - the most successful large-scale redeployment in Europe. Currently responsible for a £12 million budget, Marion and her team deliver Get Ready for Work, Skillseekers, Modern Apprenticeships and Training for Work throughout the Lothians, managing upwards of 65 contracts across 50 plus organisations delivering training to more than 5000 people at any one time.