

Candidates' Profiles

The General Committee 2019 - 2020

Anne Kerr – Global Head Cities & Managing Director of Greater China, Mott MacDonald



In support of her role as Managing Director Greater China, Dr Kerr continues to lead Mott MacDonald's Global Strategic Initiative for Cities providing expertise in visioning, master-planning and delivery of developments at local, national and cross boundary. She has been involved in developing roadmaps, development strategies as well as detailed plans for (and delivery of) integrated developments (both new and redevelopment/regeneration) for communities, land-use and transportation, innovative technologies, and resource management in more than 30 countries. She advises governments, developments and agencies on policy matters and strategies to deliver integrated solutions for the built environment – always putting people first. Has provided advisory services to a number of eco-city and smart city developments, mixed use communities, transit-oriented developments and entertainment districts and for various other master-planning developments around the world, and provides inputs to Regional goals in support of sustainable development goals and particularly SDG 11.

Benjamin Birks – Chief Executive, Zung Fu Company Limited



Benjamin Birks joined Jardine Matheson in 2000 and has been Chief Executive of Jardine International Motors since May 2019. Jardine International Motors brings together Zung Fu Group and Jardine Cycle and Carriages direct motor interests.

Benjamin has previously been Chief Executive of Jardine Pacific. Jardine Pacific holds a number of the Group's businesses including its construction and engineering businesses, restaurant interests, as well as its information technology, and aviation and transportation concerns. Before this Ben held positions within the retail, automotive, business outsourcing and IT businesses of the Group.

Benjamin is originally from the UK, although he has lived in Asia since 1996. He was educated in St Andrews, Scotland and Harvard, USA.

Catherine Li – Managing Director, Asia, Atkins, a member of the SNC-Lavalin Group



Catherine Li is Managing Director for Asia at Atkins, one of the world's most respected design, engineering and project management consultancies. Since July 2017, Atkins became part of the SNC-Lavalin Group, forming a global end-to-end infrastructure engineering company and an owner and operator of large infrastructure assets.

Catherine has vast industry experience and close relationships with key stakeholder groups in China and the UK. She has clear understanding of business in Asia, the UK and Africa that are key to the infrastructure development sector.

Catherine has a strong interest in the subject of technology both as a disruptor and enabler to the future of infrastructure. Catherine was also a contributor to the Foreign Expert Belt and Road Policy Recommendation paper for the Chinese Government.

Prior to Atkins, Catherine was the Global Alliances Leader at Arup based in London. She was responsible for the company's global strategic client relations, with a focus on major infrastructure investment opportunities with global partners, including large Chinese outbound investors.

Catherine is Board Member of the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC). She has been the Vice-Chair of the Hong Kong British Chamber of Commerce's International Infrastructure Forum (IIF). Catherine is delighted to expand her involvement in the British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and continue to make meaningful contributions to the British business community in Hong Kong, and trade and investment between British and Chinese businesses in China, UK and third countries.

David Dodwell - CEO, Strategic Access Limited



Mr. Dodwell is a public policy consultant and former Financial Times journalist who has worked in Hong Kong for over four decades. As such, he has deep roots into the Hong Kong Government, into the Legislative Council, and the media community which can be of help to the British Chamber as it reaches out to inform and influence local policy making.

He is intensively involved in think-tank work for government agencies and pro bono organisations, and has sat on a number of Government advisory bodies, positioning him well to reflect business views in general, and the views of British business in particular, in a wide range of policy areas.

As Executive Director of the HK-APEC Trade Policy Group he maintains on behalf of Hong Kong Business intensive involvement in APEC-wide policy discussion on trade and investment liberalization and protectionism.

David Haigh - Managing Partner Asia-Pacific Business Development, Ernst & Young



David has lived and worked in Hong Kong since 2011 and in Asia since 2008 having previously being based in Singapore. He is married with two children, both studying in Hong Kong.

David leads business development at EY across Asia-Pacific as well as being the lead Asia-Pacific partner for one of the firms' largest global clients. Previously he ran the consulting business in North Asia.

David was responsible for EY's admission to the Chamber as a Sterling member and is passionate around ensuring that EY contributes positively to the Chamber's agenda across multiple fronts.

He sees strong alignment between EY's strategy in Hong Kong and Asia - Pacific and the Chambers broader aims to serve its membership.

Jeremy Sheldon - Head of Markets, Asia Pacific, JLL



Jeremy is the Head of Markets, Asia Pacific for JLL. He is presently the Chairman of the Chamber's Real Estate Committee.

Jeremy has lived overseas for 29 years. He has been in the property industry for over 34 years. In this time he has been based in Europe, the US but most significantly 26 years in HK. He brings a global perspective to the challenges faced by both occupiers and developers in HK, in China and more broadly APAC, as organizations now compete on an increasingly competitive APAC stage.

He believes that his experience in real estate, business transformation and most recently PropTech as well as an ongoing regional /global interaction with all manner of companies, as they look to their operations in Hong Kong, Greater China and APAC will benefit the Chamber in its mission. He will continue to focus on the concerns/ issues that affect the Chamber members, especially as they relate to the HK Property market but also across the broader HK business environment and into the Greater Bay Area. He is facilitating this through his active participation in the various property professional bodies of HK, such as the RICS, HKIS and increasingly government relations through the daily course of Chamber and JLL business.

Jeremy is proud to be a member of the Committee and will commit the time he has to improving the position of the chamber and its members in the HK business community.

Paul McSheaffrey – Head of Banking & Capital Markets, KPMG



Paul is KPMG's Head of Banking & Capital Markets for Hong Kong and has worked with a variety of clients in Hong Kong and across Asia advising them on a range of matters. Paul's clients comprise institutions in retail/commercial banking, private wealth management and investment banking with a particular focus on international groups' operations in Asia. Paul regularly engages with regulators, principally the HKMA, sharing views on industry and client matters. Paul has a particular interest on advising firms on their governance, risk and control processes with a recent focus on advising on conduct and culture.

Paul has been a member of the Financial Markets Committee for over five years. Paul is passionate about the promotion and continuing development of Hong Kong as the international financial centre for Asia and contributes to this, most recently with the Private Wealth Management Association in 2018 whitepaper on developing Hong Kong as an offshore wealth management hub. He has seen firsthand the ability of Chambers and industry associations to reach, and influence, policy makers and regulators on what actions are needed.

Paul has been living and working in Hong Kong for nearly 15 years. He is married with two children at school in Hong Kong. Paul is active in mini-rugby in Hong Kong and is the Treasurer of the Hong Kong Football Club youth rugby section and is the team manager for the under-9s as well as being a budding referee!

Peter Burnett - Managing Director, Corporate & Institutional Banking and Corporate Finance, Greater China & North Asia, Standard Chartered Bank



Peter is a senior Managing Director of Standard Chartered Bank Corporate & Institutional Banking and Corporate Finance. He joined the bank in 2013 and has been the Head of the bank's Greater China and North Asia Corporate Finance business, including a member of the bank's Hong Kong Executive and Asset & Liability Committees. Corporate Finance consists of Leveraged & Structured Solutions, Project & Export Finance, Aviation and Shipping Finance, M&A and Loan Syndications. He is Chairman of the Belt & Road Committee of the Hong Kong Association of Banks and also serves as member of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council Belt & Road Committee's International Market Working Group and the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre Belt & Road Advisory Committee.

Peter has been Chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce since his election in June 2018.

Prior to joining Standard Chartered in April 2013, he spent a career of some 24 years with UBS, including, Head of Asian Equity Capital Markets, Head of Asian Investment Banking, Chief Executive of UBS Middle East and Chairman of Global Capital Markets, Asia.

Peter first came to Asia on business in 1994. He settled in Hong Kong in 1996 where, apart from three and a half years in the Middle East, he has lived ever since. He has a long association with the region and has worked with a large number of Hong Kong and Hong Kong based corporate and Government entities.

He is a graduate of Oxford University and a Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales. Peter, who was born in India, is married with three daughters.

Rupert Hogg – Chief Executive Officer, Cathay Pacific Airways Limited



Rupert Hogg is Chief Executive Officer of Cathay Pacific Airways Limited and Chairman of Air Hong Kong and Cathay Dragon. He is also a Board Director of John Swire & Sons (HK) Limited, Cathay Pacific Airways and Air China Cargo Company Limited.

Mr. Hogg joined the Swire Group in 1986. He has held various management positions in the group's operations in Hong Kong, Southeast Asia, the United Kingdom and Australia. Prior to his appointment as Chief Executive Officer of Cathay Pacific Airways in May 2017, Mr. Hogg served as the Chief Operating Officer of the airline for three years.

Mr. Hogg, who holds a Masters degree from Edinburgh University (MA Hons), is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport HK. He is enthusiastic to serve as a member of the British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and is confident that the many leadership roles he has played in numerous corporate and professional bodies will benefit the Chamber if he is elected to the General Committee.

Stephen Kitts - Managing Partner, Eversheds Sutherland



Stephen Kitts is the Managing Partner of Eversheds Sutherland in Asia and a corporate M&A lawyer.

Stephen lives in Hong Kong having arrived in November 2012. He quickly recognised the valuable contribution made by the Chamber to business life and is an enthusiastic supporter of its "doing business" ethos.

Eversheds Sutherland is recognised as a progressive global law firm with an ambitious agenda to build its business in Greater China. Stephen believes there is real alignment between the strategic objectives of the Chamber and his firm that resulted in Eversheds Sutherland becoming a Sterling Member in 2013.

Stephen sits on the Financial Markets Committee and has a keen interest in how the Chamber facilitates strategic interactions between stakeholders in Hong Kong and fosters meaningful relationships with businesses in the UK. If elected, Stephen will proactively contribute to the Chamber's activities and work with members to ensure their interests are best served.

Stuart Tait- Group General Manager Regional Head of Commercial Banking Asia Pacific, The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited



Group General Manager Regional Head of Commercial Banking Asia Pacific for the HSBC Group, responsible for relationships with large corporate, medium and small business clients in Asia Pacific.

Have over 30 years of experience in the HSBC Group holding various positions in Commercial Banking, Trade Finance, Global Banking and Markets, Retail Banking and Wealth Management, Credit Risk and Human Resources, working in Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North America.

Stuart first started working in Hong Kong in 1985 and has lived here for about 11 years since then.

Susheela Rivers – Office Managing Partner, DLA Piper



Susheela Rivers is the Office Managing Partner of DLA Piper Hong Kong, head of the Real Estate Group and the Hospitality & Leisure Group for DLA Piper in Asia Pacific. She is a solicitor of England and Wales and also admitted in Hong Kong. With 25 years' experience in real estate investments and developments, hotel, retail and mixed use sectors, Susheela has been instrumental in advising on landmark developments throughout the region including China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Macau, Malaysia, Korea, India, Vietnam and Indonesia.

With a focus in real estate acquisitions/disposals, financings, developments, leases, hotels and private funding initiatives, Susheela advises international and regional property companies, hotel groups, retailers, private equity real estate funds, investment banks and hospitals on aspects of real estate transactions from structuring the investments, developments, project and investment management, real estate operation to the exit strategies. She transacts also on deals in England.

Susheela has been acknowledged as Best in Real Estate by the Euromoney Legal Media Group Asia Women in Business Law Awards 2014. She was also named as a leading individual in the area of Real Estate by Asia Pacific Legal 500. Asia Pacific Legal 500 went on to note that Susheela "is a hospitality sector expert with deep knowledge of the real estate market". In addition, she was acknowledged as a leading lawyer in the area of Real Estate by The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers and Chambers Asia Pacific. Under Susheela's leadership, DLA Piper's Real Estate group is ranked as Tier 1 for Real Estate in China, Hong Kong and Thailand by Asia Pacific Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 and Tier 1 for Real Estate Funds in Hong Kong by IFLR1000.

Clients say of Susheela Rivers: "She understands the issues very well and has a very commercial point of view on matters which helps get the deal done." - Chambers Asia Pacific 2017

Timothy Peirson-Smith – CEO, Executive Counsel Limited



Timothy is an elected General Committee member and former Chairman of the Chamber's Business Policy Unit (BPU) from 2007-2016. Timothy was the founding Chair of the Chamber's Environment and Energy Committee and chaired this committee 2005-2007, and has been active chamber member for the last 25 years.

In addition, throughout this time Timothy has authored, led and contributed to most of the major Chamber submissions to the government on Hong Kong's business competitiveness, environment, competition policy, minimum wage, double stamp duty, English language radio, affordable international education, and presented and debated these positions to the Legislative Council and their Bills' Committees. Tim has also organised a wide array of speakers to speak to Chamber members on Hong Kong's key local, regional and global challenges, and has spoken to the Chamber on construction, environment and PR/marketing for SMEs.

In 2003, Timothy founded of the respected corporate governance, public affairs/government relations, public relations, crisis management and political risk consultancy, Executive Counsel Limited.

Timothy has worked in Hong Kong since 1990 and proudly calls Hong Kong his home.

Tim's Chamber priorities for the coming year will include focused lobbying of government on behalf of the business community on issues including the Greater Bay Area, Lantau Tomorrow Vision, Hong Kong's regional competitiveness, an overarching strategy for Hong Kong, the Taskforce on Land Supply, HAB's Private Recreational Lease consultation, and the need for an alternative approach to tendering Site 3. In 2019-2020 he hopes also to continue to contribute meaningfully to the General Committee and also the betterment of Hong Kong as the best place to live, work, rest and play in Asia.

William Lau - Chairman and Managing Director, B.S.C. Group Limited



William Lau is the Chairman of the B.S.C. Group of Companies. The Group is the region's leading interior fitting out contractor, and solution provider for bath, kitchen, lighting, furniture, natural stone, interior and architecture finishing materials.

He has been past Chairman of Howden Asia (Howden is a London listed company), past Chairman of Hochtief Asia (Hochtief is listed on Xetra Germany), past Non-Executive Director of Sands China Limited (HK Listed) and past Chairman of Manhattan Shower UK, Manhattan Bath Hong.

William has more than 40 years of Hong Kong and China experience.