

Data Centres Council Elections – Candidate Pack

Council Candidates

Ben Connolly

Company: Amazon Web Services

Job Title: Infrastructure Policy Manager, UK and Ireland

Statement: I bring expertise in infrastructure public policy and strategic communications, managing public policy for AWS's LHR and DUB regions. My experience spans both in-house and agency roles for major data centre clients, positioning me to understand industry challenges from multiple perspectives. I have created public engagement initiatives, including a supplier event in Dublin which has seen senior Government buy in. I work closely with a range of in-house teams involved in the development of our infrastructure including permitting, energy, water, environmental and our community engagement teams. I regularly engage with UK government as well as key regulators. My skills in building partnerships, creating effective public communications strategies, and translating complex infrastructure issues into accessible narratives would bring valuable strategic insight to the Council during this critical growth phase for UK data centres.

Peter Stephens

Company: Arm

Job Title: Director, Government Partnerships and Public Policy

Statement: Arm-based processors power a significant and rapidly growing portion of cloud and data-centre computing. We work with partners to bring AI everywhere; and power the UK's AI research resource at Isambard (home to over 450,000 Arm Neoverse Cores). Our USP has always been power-efficient compute, and we support HMG through forum such as the AI Energy Council to prepare for the needs associated with training and using models. As the UK seeks to expand its compute capacity, there is a critical need to ensure that these are power efficient. Arm also partners with universities, startups and industry around our UK sites in Cambridge, Manchester, Bristol and Sheffield.

Andrew Jay

Company: CBRE

Job Title: Head of Data Centre Advisory

Statement: UK and European Data Centre market expert, well networked across the DC Operator industry. Keen to continue in my current role as Vice Chair in helping address the needs of the sector at Government level working with techUK.

Rebecca Roffe

Company: CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP

Job Title: Partner

Statement: Rebecca is a partner in the firm's planning and environmental team, so is uniquely placed to bring issues from both specialisms to the Council. She has over 15 years of experience in datacentre and infrastructure sectors with a particular focus on energy and climate change. As a member of techUK she has found the seminars and discussions she has attended to date insightful, but would relish the chance to gain a seat at the table and contribute more fully.

Nick Reid

Company: CoreWeave

Job Title: Policy Lead - Europe

Statement: As Policy Lead – Europe at CoreWeave, I focus on the evolving policy and regulatory landscape shaping cloud and digital infrastructure across the continent. My role gives me a front-row view of developments in Brussels and across EU Member States, from data centre strategy and energy policy to AI governance and digital sovereignty. I bring practical insight into how these policies are influencing market growth and innovation, along with experience engaging directly with governments, regulators, and industry to help shape the environment for responsible, sustainable digital infrastructure investment in Europe.

Sam Matthew

Company: Greystoke

Job Title: COO

Statement: I am pleased to nominate Sam Matthew, COO of Greystoke, for membership of the techUK Data Centres Council. Sam brings a uniquely valuable perspective that is currently missing from the Council: the perspective of a Powered Land Specialist, a company involved in all the critical stages of data centre development before construction begins. Whereas most Council members represent operators, Sam's expertise covers the strategic front end of the development pipeline: site identification and acquisition, planning and design processes, environmental considerations, community and political engagement, and securing power capacity, all of which have become decisive constraints for the UK's data centre and AI infrastructure ambitions. Sam has led the early-stage development of several nationally significant data centres, including West London Tech Park (90MW cloud data centre), Abbots Langley Data Centre (96MW cloud data centre), and Humber Tech Park (384MW AI training data centre), the latter forming a core part of the Northern Lincolnshire AI Growth Zone. These projects demonstrate his practical understanding of how planning policy, power availability, national infrastructure strategy, and Government processes interact in real-world deployments. In his role as COO, Sam regularly engages with local

politicians, MPs, senior civil servants across DESNZ and DSIT, planning authorities, utilities, national media, and international cloud and AI investors, giving him extensive experience as a credible and trusted senior representative. Because Greystoke works across the entire development ecosystem - operators, utilities, investors, landowners, and Government - Sam is well placed to represent the broader membership, including voices not yet present on the Council but critical to the UK's future digital infrastructure capacity. Sam is also a member of the UKAI Parliamentary Roundtable – Infrastructure and AI. He is committed to contributing thought leadership to techUK through insights, events, and publications, particularly on the planning system, grid and private wire reform, enabling regional growth through AI infrastructure, and the urgent need to expand power-ready, planning-ready land supply. Sam would significantly strengthen the Council's ability to understand and shape the early-stage conditions that determine whether the UK can deliver the data centre and AI capacity required for economic growth. I strongly recommend his appointment.

Manuel Abellan San Martin

Company: Microsoft

Job Title: EMEA - Government Affairs Data Center Strategy Director

Statement: I work in Government Affairs focused on Data Centres, covering EU and UK markets. For the past two years, I have led policy development for Microsoft's UK projects including areas like energy, sustainability, planning and AIGZs. I also co-led a recent report sponsored by Microsoft on the regional benefits of data centres in the UK which has been widely shared across government. I also lead Microsoft's infrastructure government engagement which over the last two years has included regular meetings with senior government officials, meetings with Ministers, organising events, data centre visits etc. I offer valuable insights from other European markets, drawing on my background in energy policy at DESNZ and involvement with the Energy Security Bill. My expertise includes strategic leadership on major infrastructure projects, a deep understanding of political dynamics, and a track record of high-level stakeholder engagement. By joining the Council I aim to share Microsoft's expertise and insights on emerging technologies and industry trends, participate in working groups, and continue to contribute to consultations and position papers. I believe that this experience positions me to contribute meaningfully to tech UK's Data Centre Council, supporting its mission to advance the UK's digital sector and foster innovation within the data centre industry.

Steve Wright

Company: Nominet UK

Job Title: Non-Executive Director

Statement: I have spent more than two decade in the data centre sector across operational, strategic, regulatory and governance roles. As a former COO leading multi-site colocation and cloud operations most recently at Redcentric following the successful sale of 4D Data Centres, I oversaw mission-critical infrastructure, commercial strategy, and customer

growth across both retail and wholesale environments. My work has spanned predominantly UK facilities, including programmes to modernise operations, improve resilience, and drive sustainable expansion. Today, I serve in advisory and non-executive roles, giving me a broad, independent view of the sector's priorities - from energy policy and planning to connectivity, skills and regulatory alignment. I remain actively involved in discussions shaping the UK's digital infrastructure landscape. Crucially, my current roles give me the independence to advocate objectively for what is best for the sector as a whole. I'm not tied to a single operator's agenda, and I bring a balanced, practitioner-led perspective informed by hands-on operational leadership and ongoing industry-wide advisory work. I aim to contribute constructively to techUK's Data Centre Council by representing the broader interests of the UK's data centre ecosystem and helping ensure the sector continues to grow responsibly and sustainably.

David Crawford

Company: North

Job Title: CEO

Statement: North's mantra is 'Stronger Networks, Smarter Places' and Data Centres is one of our 3 market sectors that we serve. North's customers cover the full range of the Data Centre ecosystem - construction, Operators, tenants, and hyper-scalers – providing perimeter security, internal & external electronic security, networking & connectivity and cabling & physical infrastructure services across the UK and Europe. As CEO of North, I would bring a valuable, and potentially different, perspective to techUK's Data Centre Council on a range of topical issues. These would include security standards required to meet the likely requirements of the forthcoming Cyber Security & Resilience Act, which UK Data Centres will be covered by as part of their CNI designation; implications of OT – IT convergence within Data Centres; accessing skilled labour resource for time critical deployment programmes; supply chain management & assurance in an industry that often operates a highly outsourced model. I also believe that my previous industry experiences, that include strategy consulting at Bain & Co and telecoms infrastructure investment & operations, as well as some experience of working with regulators and political stakeholders (to bring about changes in the Electronic Communications Code) would be relevant and would add value to the debate within the Data Centre Council.

Ivo Brook

Company: Platform Markets Group

Job Title: Content Director

Statement: Ivo is content director at Platform Markets team and has more than 10 years experience in community building, developing bespoke conferences to deliver critical insights for industry leaders across diverse sectors including, data centres, construction, renewable energy, engineering and aviation. His role also demands a strong commitment to and understanding of the current challenges confronting the data centre industry. In

contributing to techUK, Ivo would share updated market knowledge -he is regularly in contact with thought leaders across investment, regulation and energy in digital infrastructure. Content expertise informs decisions about platforms and this strategic expertise would work especially well in an organization supporting members in navigating a fast moving and often turbulent market.

Brian Burns

Company: PwC UK

Job Title: AI Infrastructure Leader, PwC Partner, and co-head of PwC's Global Data Centre Council

Statement: I am PwC's UK AI Infrastructure Leader and co-head of our Global Data Centre Council, with almost two decades of experience advising digital infra operators, investors, and developers across the full lifecycle of data centres —from strategy and investment through build, operation, and optimisation. My work focuses on the intersection of AI, data centre infrastructure, and capital deployment, helping clients to navigate the rapid evolution of the data centre landscape as demand for capacity, efficiency, and sustainability accelerates.

Iain MacDougall

Company: RED Engineering Ltd

Job Title: Director, Head of Sustainability

Statement: I have had the great fortune of contributing to various tech UK DC groups over the past 12 month and I hope to continue to provide tech UK with all of REDs expertise and technical opinion as it relates to the various topics covered.

James Cook

Company: Slaughter and May

Job Title: Partner, Co-Head of Data Centres, Slaughter and May

Statement: James has been advising clients operating within the data centre space for 12+ years, as well as advising in the wider digital infrastructure, telecommunications and emerging technology space.

Alistair Watson

Company: Taylor Wessing

Job Title: Partner

Statement: Taylor Wessing is a leading international law firm renowned for its work in the technology and real estate sectors, with complementary support in other areas, such as energy. This combination of specialist expertise positions us to provide integrated advice to

our clients across the industry: data centre operators, tenants, developers, hyperscalers, investors and more.

SME Candidates

John Booth

Company: Carbon3IT Ltd

Job Title: MD

Statement: I am the chair of the BSI TCT7/3 committee that manages the ISO/IEC 22237 and EN 50600 series of data centre design, build and operate standards as well as the ISO/IEC 30134 series of DC KPIs. I am a joint author of the EU Code of Conduct for Data Centres (Energy Efficiency) best practices.

Mark Acton

Company: EkkoSense Ltd.

Job Title: Non Exec Director, EkkoSense

Statement: A Chartered Engineer and Chartered IT Professional Mark has been a specialist in data centre design, operations and technical management for more than 25 years.

Alan Pritchard

Company: FarrPoint

Job Title: Principal Consultant - Data Centres

Statement: Alan Pritchard from FarrPoint is a highly experienced principal consultant who's worked in data centres in the UK, New Zealand and Australia for the last 20 years.

Chris Miller

Company: Power Harvest Infrastructure Ltd (Phi)

Job Title: CEO & Co-founder

Statement: I have been in the Data Centre industry for over 20 years. I have been involved in the design, build and operation of Data Centres in UK, Europe and APAC.

Marcus Weyler

Company: Sepia Infrastructure

Job Title: Chief Technology Officer

Statement: As a Chartered Engineer with more than 15 years of experience delivering large-scale data centre and hyperscale infrastructure projects across Europe, Middle East and South America.

Rory Flashman

Company: Spa Communications

Job Title: Managing Director

Statement: Rory Flashman is the Managing Director of Spa Communications - an integrated PR and communications firm specialising in the data centre, critical power, and digital infrastructure sectors.