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. Current roles: Non-Executive Director, NextStream Data Centres (Latin America); Independent Governor, Bath Spa University; Non-Executive Director, Nominet UK; Data Centre Industrial Advisor, Actis; Senior Advisor - Digital Infrastructure, FTi Consulting. Past roles: Member of techUK Data Centre Council and Covid Operators Group; Chair of LINX; COO at 4D Data Centres sold to Redcentric Plc; Operations Director at DediPower Managed Hosting sold to Pulsant; VP of Operations at Console Connect.

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. In addition, I will bring a commitment to play a proactive and collaborative role within the Council to

help address the huge opportunities, and inevitable challenges, that lie ahead for the Data Centre sector and to do so in a way that is fully compatible with techUK's 5 Values.

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. At PwC, I lead engagements spanning commercial due diligence, corporate strategy, and investment support for hyperscale, regional colocation, and GPUaaS businesses. I have also advised on the repurposing of industrial assets for digital infrastructure, enabling clients to unlock value while addressing planning, power, and sustainability constraints. This breadth of experience gives me a deep understanding of both investor expectations and the operational realities facing the sector. As co-head of PwC's Global Data Centre Council, I regularly convene cross-regional perspectives on investment flows, market maturity, and partnership models, and I would bring this global insight to help techUK's Data Centre Council shape its strategic agenda. I am particularly motivated to strengthen collaboration between industry, policymakers, and investors to ensure the UK maintains its position as a trusted and competitive location for digital infrastructure investment. By joining the Council, I aim to contribute a balanced, forward-

looking perspective—bridging financial, technical, and strategic viewpoints—to help members accelerate delivery of techUK's Data Centre Programme priorities.

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. From a personal perspective in the past few years I have been involved with: 1. The UK NZ Building Standard as the Data Centre Sector PM. 2. I am currently the co-chair of the ASHRAE UK DC Committee (alongside Steven Parker of Global Switch), 3. I am elected committee member of both CIBSE DC Group and 4. the CIBSE Sustainability Group, 5. I have twice served as a judge for the CIBSE Building Performance Awards. 6. Most recently I have been nominated on to the advisory board of the DCA. In the practical execution of representing RED, CIBSE DC SIG, ASHRAE UK DC SIG, DCA and UKNZBS - I would, when appropriate, be able to provide various subject matter experts (SMEs) to best present the topic(s) of the day to the council. In this way the technical reach of my appointment would furnish the council with direct (supplier agnostic) access to some of the best engineering resources available to inform their decision making. Furthermore, the expertise stretches across the whole sector and includes specific links to academic institutions who make up large portion of the ASHRAE & CIBSE membership. This can also be leveraged to assist in the advocacy for driving talent into the sector. ance Awards. 6. Most recently I have been nominated on to the advisory board of the DCA.

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 (e.g. satellites, mobile towers, fibre). James leads Slaughter and May's data centre practice and the advice we provide across all of the areas set out above, working with many of the operators and investors noted. His deep market knowledge spans acquisitions, disposals, and strategic partnerships in the UK and internationally, giving him a unique perspective on emerging trends, regulatory considerations, and investment strategies. He also draws on his specialist support team to provide detailed knowledge on land acquisition, planning/permitting, construction and fit-out, operational supplier

contracts, customer contracting/leasing and project financing. James's experience advising global operators, investors, and government bodies positions him to contribute valuable insights on policy development, market growth, and innovation within the data centre sector. Equally importantly, James has a real passion and interest in the sector, and the development of it in the UK. As well as expertise, he will also bring significant energy and enthusiasm to a role on the council. He is a strong supporter of the initiatives that the UK Government has been undertaking in the area, particularly around the development of AI Growth Zones and resolving the power "queue", but also the broader encouragement of investment in the sector.

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. We have a strong track record in all aspects of data centre related advice ranging from investment and finance, buy and build through operation and maintenance to security and resilience. Al is our UK Head of Planning & Environment and advises clients on key aspects of planning and building data centres backed up by his expert knowledge of the data centre industry and planning landscape. Al is a commercially minded lawyer with outstanding energy, people skills and commitment. He's been in practice for 32 years and is recognised as one of the UK's leading planning lawyers with a keen interest in planning reform. What would Al bring to the TechUK Data Centre Council? Data centre expertise and technical acumen combined with years of real estate and planning experience and a clear understanding of government policy. By engaging collaboratively with stakeholders across the value chain, Al is well placed to contribute meaningfully to council initiatives - helping shape policy, foster innovation, and promote best practice in support of a resilient UK data centre sector.

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. I am chair of the Data Centre Alliance Energy Efficiency and Standards Group and also sit on the iMasons Sustainability Committee in a

leadership role. Carbon3IT is a Sustainable ICT consultancy but the bulk of our work is provide consultancy on energy efficiency/sustainability/compliance/assessment and legislation services to DC operators globally, we also provide practical training through our National Data Centre Academy division. I am an existing council member and would like to continue to assist the UK DC sector.

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, holding senior positions in global organisations. Now operating as a Consultant and Technical Advisor supporting all aspects of the Data Centre Lifecycle including energy efficiency and routinely involved in Technical Due Diligence for data centre investors and operators. A regular public speaker and thought leader involved in multiple technical and advisory boards. Mark is involved in the development of International Data Centre Standards as well as being the Technical Editor and Committee Chair of the European Commission Code of Conduct on Data Centre Energy Efficiency since 2013. This document now underpins the EU Taxonomy and CSRD reporting requirements.

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. Alan is based in Edinburgh and is an advocate for the UK DC market diversification: from M25 further North. Alan specialises in data centre connectivity, site due diligence and feasibility studies. His recent work includes being the main technology and DC advisor for the new UK Lottery transition from Camelot to Alwynn, Connectivity Assessment for the UK Atomic Energy Authority's AI-focused data centre in Culham, and the Scottish Government's data centre site shortlist report. Through his work at FarrPoint, Alan has great connections with both central and local government, both in the UK and Canada, telecoms regulators, energy suppliers and data centre developers, therefore he'd be a great addition to this council.

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. I spent 10 years with Chayora as one of the C-Suite developing two data centre clusters c200MW each - one in the Beijing region and the other in Shanghai and developed close links to the senior DC players with the US hyperscalers on the West Coast of US and the Chinese hyperscalers too. I have worked with the UK, Finnish, Malaysian and Chinese govt advising on DC energy efficiency. As an ex-British Army officer I am passionate about the UK Plc succeeding and am pushing for carbon-neutral energy Data Centres in the UK so that the UK becomes a leader in the field - use of localised carbon-neutral energy production/energy storage and heat reuse for ethically powered data. The UK has an opportunity to be am exemplar on the global stage in the DC industry and this will help all members of Tech UK and so I would like be part of a team that helps collaborates with Public and Private industry to deliver that.

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, I bring both deep technical expertise and a holistic understanding of the evolving data centre landscape to the techUK Data Centres Council. As CTO at Sepia Infrastructure, I lead the technical delivery of our campus developments from concept through to commissioning. My previous experience includes serving as a Board Director at RED Engineering and holding senior engineering roles with Deerns and Arup. Over the course of my career, I have overseen the delivery of more than 750 MW of IT capacity, encompassing site selection due diligence, campus masterplanning, detailed design, construction oversight, substation design, and permitting. I am passionate about advancing innovation, sustainability, resilience, and collaboration across our industry, and, through my close work with Sepia's public affairs lead and former techUK Sustainability Programme Manager, Weronika Dorociak, I understand the Council's role in shaping effective dialogue between members and policymakers.

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. For the last eighteen (18) years, Rory has worked with some of the world's leading startups, scale-ups and Fortune 500 businesses, including AVK, Kao Data and Schneider Electric, and other key techUK members, to provide strategic counsel and integrated PR services - helping them drive brand awareness among key business, national and trade media, and engage the government on prominent issues including energy pricing and availability. By working alongside the existing members of techUK's Data Centre Council, Rory can offer expert insight on the industry's biggest challenges, and support the council in its mission to better communicate and lobby the needs of the sector. He can also help the council engage influential opinion formers and members of the press, and work with key stakeholders to deliver joined up messaging on behalf of the data centre industry.