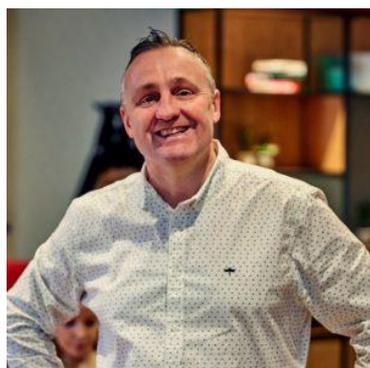


# pro-manchester

**Annual General Meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022**

## **Information sheet**

### **Officers Nominations**



**Sean Williams – Head of Professional Sector, Together Money  
Standing as Chair 2022-23  
Nominated by Anthony Morrow – pro-manchester Chair**

Sean is Head of Professional Sector at Together Money, a specialist lender that has been delivering property finance since 1974 and provides funding on residential, commercial and semi-commercial properties, as well as land and developments, working to support a broad range of individuals and businesses with their short-term and long-term property ambitions.

Prior to this Sean was Head of Customer Banking at Yorkshire Bank in Manchester, responsible for leading customer-facing staff as well as the strategic direction of the banking operation and relationship management team. He has more than 30 years' experience in retail, business and commercial banking for the Clydesdale and Yorkshire Bank Group, and lead the North West team through a period of transformational change as the business integrated its Virgin Money acquisition.

A passionate advocate for pro-manchester, Sean is excited around the opportunity to work with the Board and membership to continue to further the ambitions, aspirations and potential of this great city.



**Danny Simpson – Founder and CEO, MID Communications  
Standing as Vice Chair 2022/23  
Nominated by Anthony Morrow – pro-manchester Chair**

Danny Simpson is the CEO of MID Communications Ltd, the largest independent franchise of Telefonica O2 UK, providing both B2B and B2C services across 17 retail stores throughout the Northwest and a business centre based in Rochdale.

The 15-year industry knowledge has seen Danny start his career back when GPRS was the only form of mobile internet and he also experienced the launch and impact of both 3G and 4G. He has also witnessed the release of the first ever iPhone in the telco marketplace along with many other tech gadgets like wearables, smart tech, innovative apps and especially tablets. Danny has seen how each of these have cannibalised the market in laptops to how the digital landscape has changed and works in our world as it is today.

He is a mentor for small to businesses, a Trustee for cash for kids locally with The Hits Radio, & Cash for Kids UK. He also achieved a Queens Award for Voluntary service.

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**Isabel Riley – Finance Director, pro-manchester Ltd**

**Standing as Co. Secretary 2022-23**

**Nominated by Sean Williams – pro-manchester Vice Chair**

Isabel is the Finance Director at pro-manchester. She has over 30 years' experience in finance.

Her role is to provide day to day accounts provision for pro-manchester and monthly management accounts and financial reports for the Board.

## **NON Executive Directors Nominations**



**Dr Amna Khan – Senior Lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University Business School**

**Standing as pro-manchester Director**

**Nominated by Sean Williams – pro-manchester Vice Chair**

Amna is a Senior Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University Business School. She contributes to the academic discipline of consumer behaviour and retailing, and her work is published in leading academic journals. A passionate educator, she teaches on the MBA program and the Government funded Help to Grow scheme. She has taught for over a decade on corporate programs, teaching clients from a range of retailers such as, ASDA, McDonalds, Tesco, Post-office, Asda George, Booths.

Amna is an invited keynote speaker at international conferences and a panellist for corporate events. She conveys complex idea with simplicity that engages and inspires the audience. She uses her unique consumer and retailing knowledge to contribute to international, national and regional media outlets and has provided comment for BBC, ITV, Channel 5, BBC Radio and The Conversation. She has regularly featured on Channel 5 retailing documentaries on leading brands, such as, Deliveroo, Tesco, Primark, Sainsbury, TKMaxx, Aldi, Subway, Coca-Cola.

Amna has worked on a number of projects that aim to widen participation and create equality, diversity and inclusion. She has worked on projects to inspire and encourage participation of ethnic minority communities and females with Higher Education and Tech. She is the Co-chair of EDI for Pro Manchester and the Chair of Race, Ethnicity, Religion and Belief (RERB) for Pro Manchester. Within MMU she has developed strategies and initiatives to address the progression and award gap, to increase degree outcomes of students from ethnic backgrounds. She is currently an advisory board member of Manchester Tech Week 2023.

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**Zoe Wallace – Director, Agent Academy**  
**Standing as pro-manchester Director**  
**Nominated by Sean Williams – pro-manchester Vice Chair**

Zoe is director at Agent Academy, a North West based social business, that is focused on upskilling future talent, especially helping those from underrepresented groups, to secure employment in emerging job roles.

Zoe champions a people-powered approach to overcoming the skills challenges faced by employers, that's why all of Agent Academy's programmes are practical and industry-led. Zoe works with industry partners, including global firms such as CGI and Manchester based Bruntwood Sci-Tech to deliver solutions to complex talent and skills challenges.

Over 500 leaders and experts contribute to the design and delivery of curriculum and learning at Agent Academy and this industry delivered approach yields results with 90% of learners landing permanent industry employment in the North West at the end of each programme.

Zoe has led a number of Office for Students initiatives, working collaboratively with university partners, to transform learning experiences for students, making sure academic curriculum is fused with industry skills to deliver to employer need.

Agent Academy created Climate Change Careers an event in Manchester, the event was attended by over 300 young people from the North West in its first year and showcased emerging 'green jobs' across all sectors. The event's success means it will take place again this year.



**Stephen Hughes – Director & Co-founder, Five Wealth**  
**Standing as pro-manchester Director**  
**Nominated by Nick Rose – pro-manchester Director**

I'm Director & Co-founder of Five Wealth Ltd, an independent wealth management firm. I provide financial planning advice and investment management to professionals, business owners and entrepreneurs across Greater Manchester and the North West.

After getting a degree in philosophy and politics from the University of Birmingham, I started my career in financial services at Friends Provident, then I joined Dewhurst Torevell, a small family firm that looked after high net worth individuals and business owners across the North West. I became Assistant Director and Head of Investment Research (responsible for co-ordinating the management of approximately £750m).

In 2016, I made a leap and co-founded Five Wealth Ltd with colleagues to provide high quality service and financial planning advice to individuals and businesses across the region. We are based in Manchester city centre and proud to employ 28 people, many of whom came through our graduate programme and our partnership with the universities in Manchester.

I'm a born and bred Mancunian and proud to see Greater Manchester thriving in so many areas. I act as a mentor and do pro bono work delivering financial education workshops to children in schools. I'd love to help support and develop the great work Pro Manchester does sharing knowledge and bringing businesses together in the region.

In my downtime, I'm either running after an energetic three-year old son or getting deep into the countryside and hills.