



**University of
Northampton
Sustainability
Summit**

2025



Theme:
**Building Sustainable
Organisations: Strategies
and Partnerships for
Enhancing Positive Impact.**



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Foreword from Vice Chancellor.



Professor Anne-Marie Kilday
Vice Chancellor and CEO
UON

**I am delighted to be writing this
Foreword for the University of
Northampton's Sustainability
Summit 2025.**

Sustainability is one of the four University of Northampton values and as Vice Chancellor, I am committed to ensuring that it is integrated into all our operations. We are well on our way to achieving our net zero carbon goals and to mobilise our University community towards common objectives and collective action to being a sustainable institution, with positive impacts on our environment and on society.

This is the third Sustainability Summit and I am incredibly proud of the hard work from colleagues across the University who provide this opportunity to bring together students, staff and representatives of local, national and international organisations to identify shared environmental, social and governance sustainability challenges, identify solutions and develop action plans to enable these challenges to be overcome.

The success of the Summit in the past two years has demonstrated the need to share knowledge and effective practice and highlight sustainability projects across Northamptonshire and the region. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors for the 2025 Summit, each of whom recognise the importance of sustainability in improving the quality of our lives from environmental and corporate perspectives.



Foreword from Planning Committee.



Dr Oluwaseyi Omoloso

Senior Lecturer in Sustainable Business
and Co-Chair of the Planning Committee
UON Sustainability Summit
University of Northampton



Dr Chijioke Uba

Senior Lecturer in International Business
and Co-Chair of the Planning Committee
UON Sustainability Summit
University of Northampton

On behalf of the Summit planning committee, it is with great pleasure that we welcome you to our University Sustainability Summit, themed “Building Sustainable Organisations: Strategies and Partnerships for Enhancing Positive Impact.” Your presence at this gathering that brings together leaders from academia, industry, government, and the non-profit sector to explore how we can collectively advance sustainable development, demonstrates your commitment to making the society a better place.

This summit takes place at a pivotal moment. Around the world, organisations are being called upon not only to operate responsibly, but to contribute proactively to solutions that address social, environmental, and economic challenges. The theme of this year’s summit reflects the importance of aligning long-term strategy with meaningful partnerships in order to take action towards creating lasting and positive impact on the world.

We are especially proud to welcome a wide range of businesses to this summit, from SMEs to multinationals, each bringing valuable insights, experiences, and commitment to the table. The public and private sector have a critical role to play in shaping a sustainable future, and your engagement signals a strong willingness to lead, collaborate, and innovate.

Over the course of the summit, we hope to inspire dialogue, spark new ideas, and lay the groundwork for partnerships that extend beyond this event. Our aim is not only to learn from one another, but to build a shared vision of what sustainable organisations can achieve when guided by purpose and supported by collaboration.

We look forward to the conversations, insights and connections that will unfold over the two days of the Summit.

“Our aim is not only to learn from one another, but to build a shared vision of what sustainable organisations can achieve.”



Foreword from Guest of Honour.



James Saunders Watson
Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire

I am delighted to be invited to provide some opening remarks for the 2025 University of Northampton Sustainability Summit.

Climate and sustainability are one of four key themes that His Majesty King Charles III has identified as being at the heart of his reign. His passion for creating a better and enduring environment is well documented and he has been at the forefront of promoting sustainability and the risks of climate change.

The Sustainability Summit will not just focus on talking but, more importantly, action. It will explore how to create sustainable strategies, create innovative solutions, share best practices and build strong partnerships to address the pressing challenges facing our planet. This year's theme 'Building Sustainable Organisations: Strategies and Partnerships for Enhancing Positive Impact' will investigate how we can translate our commitment into meaningful change, thus acting in line with our quest for a more sustainable world.

Acting sustainably is no longer a buzzword, it is now a necessity. Today we face innumerable environmental challenges, particularly climate crisis and resource depletion. However, there are also numerous growing social issues; inequality, workplace mental health and equitable resource distribution that demand attention and action.

However, it is not an entirely bleak outlook and there is also great hope and opportunity. Strategies, partnerships and innovation geared towards sustainable business practices offer a path toward a brighter future. This Summit provides organisations from all sectors of our community the opportunity to share best practices and learn from others.

These events do not happen without the hard work and support from all those involved. I am particularly grateful to all our speakers and panel members, our sponsors and our hosts, the University of Northampton, the Vice Chancellor and University Leadership Team, and the team of organisers of the Summit.

As I welcome you all to this year's Summit, I would encourage each of you and the organisations that you represent to embrace the challenge, collaborate with your peers and think outside the box. I am sure that your attendance at this Summit will go a long way in enabling you to develop better strategies and partnerships to build a world that is economically prosperous but also environmentally sound and socially just.

Let us build on the successes of the last two years to make this year's Summit a springboard for action and inspire a sustained wave of sustainable change in Northamptonshire and beyond.

"This Summit provides organisations from all sectors of our community the opportunity to share best practices and learn from others."

Guest of Honour, Keynote Speakers and Presenters.



James Saunders Watson
Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire

James Saunders Watson was appointed His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire in March 2020, following a career in the Royal Navy and the City, latterly with JPMorgan Asset Management. James lives at Rockingham Castle and is still directly involved with managing the family business with his wife Lizzie. A Council member of the White Ensign Association and a Board Director of Historic Houses, he has previously been a trustee of the Royal Navy Rugby Union, Seafarers UK, and The Teamwork Trust. He was previously High Sheriff for Northamptonshire.

He is closely involved with numerous Northamptonshire based charities, including the Order of St John, Northamptonshire branch of the ABF, Northamptonshire branch of SSAFA, Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust, Northamptonshire ACRE, Northamptonshire Community Foundation, and Northamptonshire Association for the Blind.



Stephane Bazire
Head of ESG
Silverstone Circuit

Stephane is leading the team to transform the iconic home of British Motorsport and host of the F1 British GP to become a sustainable business and leisure destination. Specialised in change management, sustainable development, event/venue operations and impact driven partnerships, he brings over 20 years of experience mainly acquired in the sports industry (through his collaboration with the ATP World Tour and WTA Tennis circuits, ITF, FIBA 3x3, FIFA Confederations Cup, World Roller Games, Mediterranean Games, F1 and MotoGP).

His main objective at Silverstone is to drive Silverstone Shift to Zero ESG strategy and decarbonisation roadmap, including carbon footprint accounting, FIA 3 and ISO 14001/20121 certifications, installation of 2764 solar panels and 24 EV charging points, switching to renewable energy, including HVO Biofuel in all temporary generators, reducing single use plastic to 100% by 2026 and getting a low emission fleet of vehicles by 2030.

Silverstone is a signatory of the UNFCCC Sport for Climate Action committed to reducing 50% of its carbon emission by 2030 and achieve Net Zero before 2040. silverstone.co.uk/sustainability

Keynote Speakers and Presenters.



Simon Derrick
Founder
Sustainable Business Alliance

Simon is the Founder of the Sustainable Business Alliance and is a visiting fellow at the University of Northampton.

Simon has over 15 years' experience working on sustainability projects in the food industry. Most recently as Global Head of Sustainability for the UK's leading fresh-cut fruit manufacturer, Blue Skies Holdings Ltd, which is based here in Northamptonshire. Simon has worked with a wide range of organisations including Waitrose & Partners, Ahold Delhaize, UNCTAD and FCDO.



Helen Neal
CEO
HN Communications

Helen has two decades of experience in political and social campaigns and communications, including working for Nissan, Virgin Atlantic and the UK Parliament.

HN Communications is a small, global agency that gets massive results. Specialising in sustainability-focused communications and events, the company supports some of the world's leading brands on their journeys

towards net zero, leveraging its network to facilitate collaboration between NGOs and corporates around the common goals of minimising impacts and fulfilling global targets.

Helen's entrepreneurial spirit and impactful work in sustainability have earned her the title Professional of the Year at the PRCA awards 2024 as well as Entrepreneur's Top 100 Female Entrepreneurs.



Keynote Speakers and Presenters.



Prince Caesar
Visionary Leader and CEO
BAK UP CIC

Prince Caesar is a dynamic social entrepreneur, strategic community leader, and the visionary CEO of BAK UP CIC (Building A Kingdom United People), an organisation dedicated to advancing equity, resilience, and opportunity for underserved communities across Northamptonshire.

A committed changemaker, Prince brings an unwavering passion for social justice, community empowerment, and inclusive development to every aspect of his work. Prince's leadership is defined by a clear and powerful vision: to build a society where no one is left behind regardless of their background, economic status, or immigration status. His approach is deeply rooted in the belief that real change begins with recognising people's lived experiences, addressing systemic inequalities, and creating access to opportunities that promote lasting transformation.

At the heart of BAK UP CIC is Prince's commitment to co-production ensuring that services are designed and delivered with those who use them, not just for them. Under his leadership, the organisation has become a trusted pillar in Northamptonshire, delivering critical services to racially minoritised communities, people with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), low-income households, and individuals experiencing crisis.

Through his vision and leadership, BAK UP CIC is not just meeting needs it is shifting systems, creating spaces for underrepresented voices, and planting seeds for long-term community-led change. Prince Caesar's influence is shaping a Northamptonshire that is more inclusive, compassionate, and resilient.

In every role from youth mentor and faith leader to partnership chair and advocate – Prince's Caesar is living proof that when vision meets purpose, communities rise.



Vicki Thomas
Research Fellow in Sustainable Futures,
University of Northampton & Design and
Research Consultant, Vicki Thomas Associates

Whilst teaching at the University Vicki worked to establish the Sustainable Futures Research Centre, bringing academics together from across the institution, looking at sustainable materials, processes and their impact.

In the last 18 months, she has established a Hub in the Centre, specifically linked to the toy and play industries. It now has almost 80 members charged with leading sustainability within their organisations. Members meet virtually once a month at 3pm GMT from their offices across the world and sessions are recorded for those in countries like New Zealand. The challenges we all face are global but sharing issues means that we can collaborate on solutions.

Vicki's interest in toys and play grew in part from her work with local firms and charities. The East Midlands has been a centre of toy innovation and distribution for over a century. Many of the machine tools used for plastic toy production were produced here and exported globally. So, it only seems right that the University should be leading the discussion on ways to find alternatives and solutions for production, distribution, consumption and waste management. We can all learn through play.

Summit Food Sponsor – Eat Curious

Eat Curious

Eat Curious is a plant-based food development company dedicated to providing innovative and sustainable solutions to the foodservice industry. We are committed to creating versatile products that are minimally processed, have a good nutritional profile and are full of flavour.

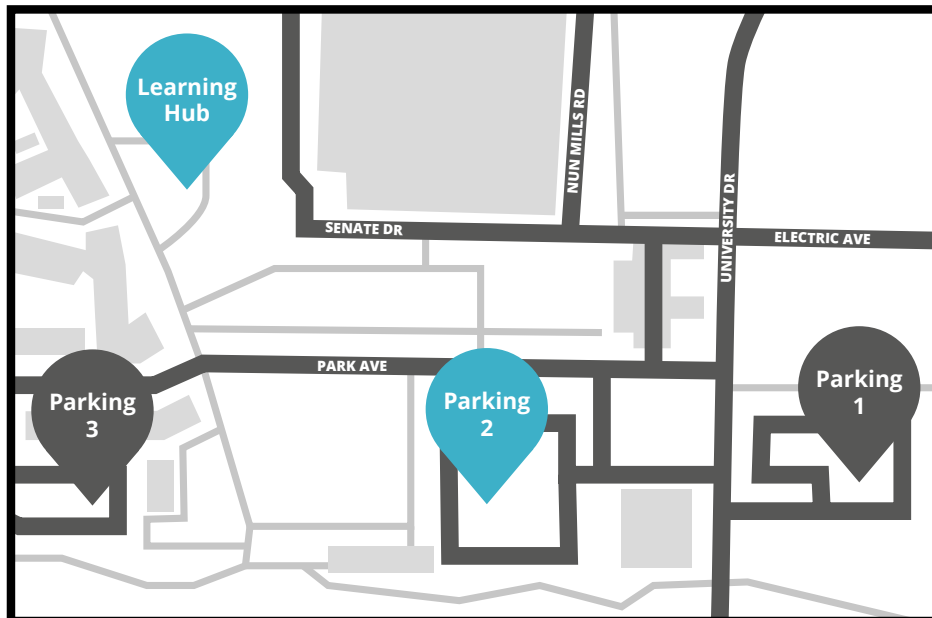


Venue Details and Parking.

The Summit will take place at the University of Northampton's award-winning Waterside Campus. All the main Summit activities will take place on the ground floor of the Learning Hub building.

The cheapest parking for delegates is on-site in **car park 2**, which can be reached via University Drive, using the postcode **NN1 5PA**.

All-day parking for one day is charged at £3, made on arrival by cashless payment machines, or in advance via the RingGo app, website or phone number (the UON RingGo code is 24700, 20p transaction fee applies). Accessible car parking spaces are available for blue badge holders.



Park and Ride

As part of attending the Sustainability Summit, we have partnered with Stagecoach to offer FREE travel for Monday 30 June and Tuesday 1 July on the #18 bus. This bus route services the Sixfields Park and Ride and Northampton Train Station. You will receive a bus pass to print out or have on your phone to show the driver on the days you attend the Summit and will cover your attendance and return journeys.

Free bus passes will be sent to all delegates that have registered for the Summit.

By bus

The University has partnered with Stagecoach to operate **FREE** bus services within the town, with extensive links to the main travel hubs of Northampton and neighbouring towns. Delegates can request a free bus pass after registering for the Summit.

By train

Northampton is one hour by train from both London Euston and Birmingham New Street. Waterside Campus is a 15-minute walk from the railway station, or there is a bus which stops right outside the station on weekdays. Delegates can use the bus for FREE to get to the campus from the station.

For more information on travel to the Summit, including free bus access, please contact Hollie Darby: hollie.darby@Northampton.ac.uk



Summit Schedule – Day 1.

Timings	Activities
9.15 – 10am	Arrival, Registration of delegates and Breakfast
10 – 10.20am	Welcome Address
	Speaker: Becky Bradshaw, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Northampton
10.20 – 10.30am	Northamptonshire Lord Lieutenant Opening Remarks
	Speaker: James Saunders Watson, Northamptonshire Lord Lieutenant
10.30 – 11am	Keynote 1: Impact of the Geo-political Landscape, and the State of Sustainable Business Today
	Stephane Bazire – Head of Business Sustainability at Silverstone
11 – 11.30am	Keynote 2: Win-Win case for Adopting Sustainability Strategies: “How to strategise towards achieving sustainability targets.”
	Speaker: Simon Derrick, Sustainable Business Alliance Founder and Head of Sustainability at Blue Skies Limited
11.30am – 12pm	Mini Panel Session: Impact of Two Years of the Sustainability Summit. How are we doing?
	Dr Oluwaseyi Omoloso (Chairing panel) • Natalie Eichmann – Manager, Gilt Edged • Robert Thompson – CEO, See Limited
12 – 12.15pm	Networking/Coffee Break
12.15am – 12.40pm	Integrating Social Sustainability and Impact into Business Strategy
	Adrian Pryce, Associate Professor, University of Northampton

Timings	Activities
12.40 – 1pm	Presentation: The University of Northampton’s Economic and Social Impact in the Community
	Tracey Russell – Lead for Institutional Environmental Sustainability, University of Northampton
1 – 2pm	Networking Lunch/IOD & UK Business Climate Hub Event
2 – 2.45pm	Panel Session: Businesses driving real change by translating Strategies into Action
	Act Now Consulting - Alexina Cassidy (Chairing Panel) • Farrington Oils – Duncan Farrington • South Midlands Growth Hub – Ruth Roan • CL Baxter – Ryan Baxter • Cranfield Aerospace Solutions – Paul Clarke
2.45 – 3.45pm	Roundtable Sessions: Turning Sustainability Strategies into Actions for Positive Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food/Retail Roundtable – Sustainable Business Alliance Chairing • Transport & Logistics/Recycling/Packaging Roundtable – Sustainable Leather Foundation Chairing • Social enterprises/Education/Sustainability solution providers Roundtable – ActNow Consulting Chairing • Products Suppliers and Services Providers Roundtable – Investors in the Environment Chairing
3.45 – 4pm	Short Break
4 – 4.15pm	Plenary to Share Roundtable Discussions and Next steps
4.15 – 4.35pm	Keynote 3: Making it Count – Communicating Sustainability to Internal and External Stakeholders
	Speaker: Helen Neal – CEO, HN Communications
4.35 – 4.40pm	Closing Address and Preview for Day 2 – Dr Chijioke Uba
4.45pm	People, Planet, Pint – Vulcan Works

Summit Schedule – Day 2.

Timings	Activities
9.15 – 10am	Arrival of Delegates and Breakfast
10 – 10.05am	Welcome Address
	Helen Miller, Head of Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise, University of Northampton
10.05 – 10.25am	Keynote 4: The Role of Partnerships and Innovation in Advancing our Sustainability Efforts
	Speaker: Vicki Thomas, Research Consultant, Vicki Thomas Associates. Speaker: Emmeline Child, Senior Lecturer in Fashion
10.25 – 10.40am	Presentation: Reducing Inequalities in Northamptonshire through an Innovative Voucher Scheme
	Speaker: Prince Caesar – CEO, BAK UP CIC
10.40 – 10.50am	Tea Break
10.50 – 11.15am	Launch of the University of Northampton Sustainable Innovation Challenge (SIC)
	Dr Katerina Thomas – Senior Lecturer in Business Entrepreneurship, UON Sarah Crooks – Sustainability Coordinator in the Film and TV Industry
11.15am – 12.45pm	Students' Presentation of Solutions to address Sustainable challenge(s) (5 teams)

Timings	Activities
12.45 – 2pm	Networking Lunch
2 – 2.45pm	Panel Decision and Awards Presentation
	Dr Deniz Meric and Sarah Crooks Awards Presentation Karen Jones (Dean of Faculty of the Business and Law)
2.45 – 3.15pm	Looking ahead: thoughts for next summit – Dr Chijioke Uba
3.15 – 3.20pm	Closing Address – Becky Bradshaw, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Northampton



UON Sustainability Summit Planning Committee.

Dr Chijioke Uba

Co-Chair of the Planning Committee

Dr Seyi Omoloso

Co-Chair of the Planning Committee

Samantha McKay

Industry Liaison for the Planning Committee

Dr Katerina Thomas

Registration Liaison for the Planning Committee

Hollie Darby

Travel Liaison for the Planning Committee

Emma Stone

Travel Planning Committee

Adrian Pryce

UON Partners Liaison

Dr Deniz Meric

Academic Liaison

Rosalie Tshimanga

Hospitality and Catering Liaison

Kelechi Ndudi-Okoro

Digital Media Liaison

Dr Ade-Ige Olaobaju

Industry Engagement team

Dr Bernard Elaho

Academic Liaison

Dr Emmanuel Vanger

Academic Liaison

Dr Fabio Carbone

Academic Liaison

Dr James Mshelia

Academic Liaison

Dr Simon Sneddon

Academic Liaison

Dr Joyce Ayeni

Academic Liaison

Student Support Executives.

Olayemi Olatunde**Blessing Thomas****Alice Orkaa Torkwase****Grace Oreoluwa
Oyindamola Bello-Oro****Lisa Mayabi****Akintayo Oluwadamilare****Favour Onuoha****Moeen Khurram****Omowhare Triumphant Oghenedoro**

Acknowledgements, UON.

Professor Anne-Marie Kilday

Vice Chancellor

Becky Bradshaw

Chief Operating Officer &
Deputy Vice Chancellor

Dalbir Khangura

Deputy Dean, Faculty of Business and Law

Karen Jones

Dean of Faculty of Business & Law

Tiju Kodijat

Head of School, Strategy, Management
and International Business

Helen Miller

Knowledge Exchange Manager

Gavin Moore

Senior Public Relations & Corporate
Communications Officer

Claudia Shuttleworth

Invoicing Supervisor

Claire Maling

Marketing Coordinator

Carolyn Henry

Academic Subject Administrator

Tracy Brockton

Conference & Events Coordinator

Annie Doughty

Social Media Manager

Terry Healey

Lecturer in Strategy &
International Business

Members of the University Leadership Team (ULT)

Simon Cox

Director, Northamptonshire Business
Network

Alexina Cassidy

Founder and CEO, ActNow Consulting

Preyesh Patel

Founder & Director,
Eat Curious & Syan Farms

Sarah Crooks

Sustainability Coordinator
in the Film and TV Industry

Organisations/Companies in Attendance.

- University of Leicester
- Leyland Packaging
- Vitalis Energy
- Poppy Eco Hub
- Northamptonshire Community Foundation
- C2C Social Action
- Oynk
- KCL Limited
- Business Doctors
- Phoenix Cleaners
- Act Now Consulting
- Milton Keynes College
- Sonar Engagement
- Track Zero
- North Northamptonshire Council
- Northampton Saints
- Medigold Health
- BAKUP CIC Ltd
- Blue Skies Limited
- Investors in the Environment
- Sustainable Leather Foundation
- Suez Recycling and Recovery UK
- HN Communications
- Vicki Thomas Associates
- Marvel Studios
- CL Baxter
- Fulkrum
- South Midlands Growth Hub
- Farrington Oils
- Cranfield Aerospace Solutions
- See Limited
- Stanwick Lakes
- Yusen Logistics
- Impacct Limited
- British Regional Transport Association



Sustainable Innovation Challenge – Student Participants.

Team 1 (Polaris)

- Nutthaya Khaengkhan
- Shahid Sarikhan
- Kanrapee Dejteerachai
- Chanudom Kaewjinda

Team 2 (Aces)

- Pakanun Rattanamanee
- Techita Kritboonyapat
- Nuha Rumaisha
- Thu Ya Hlaing

Team 3 (Guardians of the Green)

- Kinza Shujah
- Shehar Bano
- Chibuike Bartholomew Ehirim
- Muhammad Hamza Arshad

Team 4 (IndiPino)

- Charissa Julianne Alcanzar
- Ishan Milind Patil
- Vrushabh Deepak Gavit

Team 5 (Mega Minds)

- Kwaku Debrah
- Chika Okeke
- Aiswarya Bebo
- Adjei-Ampofo Samuel

