

# Early Intervention Foundation National Conference - 12 April 2016 Speaker and chair biographies

## The Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions



Stephen Crabb is the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. He was appointed in March 2016; prior to this role, he served as the Secretary of State for Wales. He has also spent time on the Welsh Affairs, International Development and Treasury Select Committees and was a government whip. Stephen was elected the Conservative MP for his home constituency of Preseli Pembrokeshire in 2005. Before his time in Parliament, he worked in the youth and charity sector, at the London Chamber of Commerce and as a marketing consultant. He has degrees from Bristol University (BSc) and London Business School (MBA). He is married to Béatrice and they have two children.

## Dame Clare Tickell DBE, Chair, Early Intervention Foundation



Dame Clare Tickell is CEO of Hanover Housing Association, one of the UK's leading national providers of housing and services for older people. Previously Clare was Chief Executive of Action for Children. In 2010 she was asked by the Children's Minister to carry out an independent review of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Clare qualified as a social worker at Bristol University in 1984 and worked for social care and housing organisations including Centrepoint and Stonham Housing Association. Clare was a commissioner on the RSA 2020 Commission into Public Services. She is a former Board Member of Guinness, a Fellow of the RSA and Chair of the CVLS Honours Committee. Most recently she has been Chair of the Early Intervention Foundation and the Commission on the Future of Hospice Care. Clare also led on the Peer Review of the LGA early in 2015. In her spare time Clare enjoys swimming, reading, cycling and art.

## Carey Oppenheim, Chief Executive, Early Intervention Foundation



Carey's previous roles include Co-director of the Institute of Public Policy Research, Special Advisor to Tony Blair in the Number 10 Policy Unit, specialising in employment, social security, childcare and poverty. Carey has also been a senior lecturer in social policy at the South Bank University, deputy director and head of research at the Child Poverty Action Group, chaired the London Child Poverty Commission and advised the Treasury on welfare reform, and the DfE on childcare and early years strategy. She lately trained to be a teacher and taught history and politics at an inner-city London school.

### Donna Molloy, Director of Dissemination, Early Intervention Foundation



Donna spent over 10 years in government departments developing policy and delivering programmes to intervene more effectively with children and families. She joined the EIF from the DCLG Troubled Families Team where she advised on the national expansion of family intervention services. Before that she spent 4 years in DfE developing policy on families at risk and overseeing the roll out of family intervention and parenting programmes. She has also worked as a policy adviser in the Prime Minister’s Strategy Unit and the Social Exclusion Unit. Donna started her career as a qualitative researcher and worked at the National Centre for Social Research.

### Professor Leon Feinstein, Director of Evidence, Early Intervention Foundation



Leon joined the EIF from the Cabinet Office’s Implementation Unit, where he was chief analyst. Leon has previously worked in the Prime Minister’s Delivery Unit and the Performance and Reform Unit in HM Treasury, as Head of the Evidence and Analysis Unit in the Office for Criminal Justice Reform at the Ministry of Justice, and is also Visiting Professor at the LSE’s Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion.

### Graham Allen MP, Founder, Early Intervention Foundation



Graham Allen MP has represented his home constituency, Nottingham North, since 1987. In 1997, Prime Minister Blair appointed Graham to the Government Whips Office where he remained until the 2001 election. Damned as “very independent minded” by No.10, he proved it by organising the two biggest parliamentary rebellions within a governing party in political history against going to war in Iraq. A longstanding ambassador for Early Intervention, in 2010, the Prime Minister requested he Chair an Independent Review to report to the Government. He produced two reports the second of which, *Early Intervention: Smart Investment, Massive Savings*, was published in July 2011. He then helped build the Early Intervention Foundation to implement the findings of the reports, which launched in February 2013. In 2014 he created the charity “Rebalancing the Outer Estates” a unique initiative to facilitate local and national partnerships in order to tackle outer city deprivation.

### Dr Kirsten Asmussen, Evidence Analyst, Early Intervention Foundation



Kirsten is a developmental psychologist with expertise in the parent/child relationship and author of the Evidence-Based Parenting Practitioner's Handbook (Routledge, 2011). Kirsten previously worked at the National Academy for Parenting Research at King's College London, where she managed the Commissioning Toolkit – a DfE funded project that assessed the quality of parenting interventions against standards of evidence and best practice. Kirsten's research experience also includes the evaluation of the NAPP training offer, the 2011 NSPCC study of abuse and neglect, the On Track initiative and the local evaluation of Sure Start Children's Centres in Northeast London.

### Candida Brudenell, Assistant Chief Executive, Nottingham Council



Candida has worked in Nottingham for over 25 years, holding a wide range of roles that have included leading the development of the City's Sure Start Children's Centres programme, and driving the City's Early Intervention agenda. She was also heavily involved in the development work of Nottingham's successful Big Lottery 'A Better Start' bid which will see £47 million invested in 0-3 year olds in the City's 4 poorest wards over the next 10 years. In her current role Candida is responsible for a broad portfolio encompassing Commissioning Policy, Partnership and Communications and Marketing across the whole Council.

### Clare Burrell, Head of Commissioning, Vulnerable People, Essex County Council



Clare Burrell has a diverse background in commerce, further education and local government. Her career in Local government started in Essex as a front line Youth Work practitioner and from there has navigated a varied career which includes having managed large multi-disciplinary teams working with some of the most complex families in Essex. Clare moved into commissioning in 2011 and since then has led a varied portfolio across additional, complex and specialist need. Clare leads on Early Help and the recently commissioned Family Innovation Fund services in Essex have a strong focus on holistic family support, including parent/couple relationships, an approach is already proving to be delivering better outcomes for children and young people.

### Gabriella Conti, Associate Professor (Reader) in Health Economics, University College London



Gabriella has a BSc in Law from the University of Naples "Federico II", and a Diploma, MSc and PhD (2008) in Economics from the University of Essex. Prior to coming to UCL, she was first Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Economics, and then Research Associate (Assistant Professor) in the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago. Gabriella's research draws on both the biomedical and the social sciences with the aim of understanding the developmental origins of health inequalities, and the behavioral and biological pathways through which early life conditions affect health throughout the lifecourse. Gabriella is also a Research Associate at the Institute for Fiscal Studies, and a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Joint with

Burt Singer, she is the leader of the Health Inequality Research Network, which is part of the Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group at the University of Chicago.

### Christine Davies CBE, Trustee, Early Intervention Foundation



Christine is the former CEO of the Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services which identified and disseminated 'what works' in children's services, working with local authorities, health services, schools and the VCS. Christine established and led the previous Government's 'Narrowing the Gap' programme which identified leading practice in helping close the 'gap' between advantaged and disadvantaged children and young people. Previously a teacher, psychologist and Director of Children's Services, Christine advised successive British Governments on education, child poverty, safeguarding and early intervention and has also advised Australian, Netherlands and Russian Governments. She is currently a member of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, an EIF Trustee, a member of the Advisory Board for the Office of the Children's Commissioner; and chairs Local Authority Children's Improvement Boards and a Local Safeguarding Children's Board. She is also leading seminars for Headteachers and their senior teams on Safeguarding in Schools. Christine was awarded the CBE in 2005 for 'an outstanding contribution to education'.

### Jean Gross CBE, Trustee, Early Intervention Foundation



Jean is a founding Trustee of the Early Intervention Foundation and was until 2011 the government's Communication Champion for children. In previous roles she led the development of national approaches to social and emotional learning in schools. She has been a Visiting Fellow at three universities and published widely on children's issues. She was awarded a CBE for services to education in 2011.

### Lisa Harker, Chief Executive, The Art Room



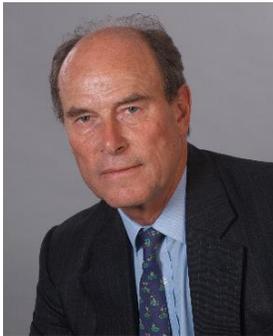
Lisa is CEO of The Art Room, a charity working with 5-16 year olds with emotional and behavioural difficulties. Lisa's career has combined research, policy, journalism, campaigning and service delivery with a focus on finding ways to improve the lives of the UK's most disadvantaged children. She has worked for the NSPCC as Director of Strategy, led the Institute for Public Policy Research, worked as an advisor to BBC News and held various senior advisory roles within government, including as 'child poverty tsar'. Lisa lives in Oxford and has two adopted children.

### Professor Gordon Harold, Professor of Psychology, University of Sussex



Gordon Harold is the Andrew and Virginia Rudd Chair and has held the position of Professor of Psychology in the School of Psychology at the University of Sussex since 2008. He has held appointments as Professor of Psychology at the University of Otago, New Zealand, and Professor of Quantitative Behaviour Genetics at the University of Leicester. He is an Associate Member of the MRC Social, Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry Centre, at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, Kings College London, and the MRC Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics at Cardiff University. His primary research interests focus on the role of the family as a context for understanding children's psychological development, the interplay between genetic and family relationship factors and children's psychological development, working with cohort longitudinal data resources, and implementing recommendations of research relating to family influences on child and adolescent mental health. He is a consultant and advisor to several government departments in the UK and internationally.

### David Hoare, Chair, Ofsted



David Hoare has been Chair of Ofsted since September 2014. He is also chairman of the Teenage Cancer Trust. David has a 40 year business career, starting out in the oil industry, at Esso, before 10 years at Bain & Company, a US strategy consultancy company. He has spent 10 years as a CEO, for both public and private companies, and over 15 years as Chairman to a number of companies, including V Ships Group, Target Express, Sparck Holdings B.V and Virgin Express. In 1987, he co-founded Talisman, to acquire underperforming companies. In 1995, he founded Duncton Group, Moneybarn's parent, a vehicle finance business which was sold to Provident Finance in 2014. David Hoare studied Chemical Engineering at Birmingham University and Business at Stanford Business School, California.

### Professor Judy Hutchings, Director, Centre for Evidence Based Early Intervention, Bangor University



Professor Judy Hutchings has worked in Wales since 1973 and is Director of Bangor University Centre for Evidence Based Early Intervention. She has published extensively, advised UK and Welsh Governments, lectured and taught internationally and in 2011 received an OBE for services to children and families. She has worked on evaluations of parenting programmes in several countries and works with the World Health Organisation, Oxford and Cape Town Universities, developing and evaluating evidence-informed parenting programmes for low- and middle-income countries. Current research includes an RCT of the KiVa bullying prevention programme and a pilot RCT of an autism parenting programme.

**Yulia Kovas, Professor of Genetics and Psychology, Goldsmiths, University of London**



Dr Kovas has a BA and MA in Literature, Linguistics, and Pedagogy and teaching qualifications from the State Pedagogical University of St Petersburg. In Russia she taught children of all ages for 6 years, when she first started thinking about the origins of individual variation in learning abilities. She received a B.Sc. in Psychology from Birkbeck College in 2003, and M.Sc. in Social, Genetic, and Developmental Psychiatry from King's College in 2004. She received her Ph.D. in 2007 from the SGDP Centre, Kings College, University of London (focusing on individual differences in mathematics). In addition to being a Reader and Director of InLab ([www.inlab.co.uk](http://www.inlab.co.uk)) at Goldsmiths College, she is an Honorary Researcher at the Institute of Psychiatry where she leads the mathematics research on the Twins' Early Development Study exploring gene-environment interplay in shaping individual variation in mathematics interest, ability, and achievement. She has published extensively on gene-environment interplay involved in variation in mathematics.

**Rachel Latham, Research Officer, Early Intervention Foundation and Developmental Psychology PhD student, University of Sussex**



Rachel joined the EIF from the University of Sussex where she is undertaking a PhD in Developmental Psychology. Her research uses a behavioural genetic study of preschool-age twins and explores children's behaviour and family relationships – particularly, the co-parent relationship. Prior to this, Rachel spent 4 years working within Brighton & Hove Children's Services; initially as a Community Family Worker delivering family support and supervising family contact, and subsequently as a Social Work Resource Officer supporting Looked After Children.

**Penny Mansfield CBE, Director, One Plus One**



Director of OnePlusOne since 1996, Penny Mansfield is a sociologist, specialising in qualitative research on marriage and couple relationships and on evidence-based practice and policy. She was the Principal Investigator of a study of the early years of marriage and the transition to parenthood (Mansfield & Collard, 1988). Early intervention is a founding principle of One Plus One and Penny has devoted much of her career to formulating insights from research to create usable resources for practitioners and more recently for the public. Penny is a frequent speaker at conferences, contributes to both print and broadcast media, author of numerous publications and a member of several research advisory groups. Past memberships include: Department of Health's review of health visiting "Facing the Future" and the Expert Group for the Healthy Child, Department for Work and Pension's Ministerial steering group for Family Support Services.

### Dr Louise Morpeth, Chief Executive, Social Research Unit Dartington



Louise has spent nearly twenty years doing research in children's services – helping local government/philanthropy/charities make the most of science/evidence, spending her entire career working at the interface of research/policy/practice. Louise has had roles in two major investment strategies - with Birmingham City Council, developing/implementing/evaluating a £42 million invest-to-save strategy, involving three real-world randomised controlled trials; and for the Big Lottery Fund, an investment of £215 million in evidence/science-based prevention (targeting under three's in five communities). Championing DSRU's place-based reform work, collaborating closely with US colleagues developing the 'Evidence2Success' model, she led its replication in Scotland (Perth & Kinross Council) and subsequently in four other Scottish authorities. Louise is a member of the Family Nurse Partnership consortium - an intensive, home visiting programme for first-time, pregnant young women and their babies – in England.

### Karyn McCluskey, Director, Scottish Violence Reduction Unit



Karyn has worked in the police for the last 20 years in Sussex, Lancashire and West Mercia. She joined Strathclyde Police 12 years ago, now part of Police Scotland. In 2004 she and John Carnochan wrote the report on Violence Reduction for Strathclyde police proposing a different way of addressing violence in Scotland. They went on to set up the violence reduction unit. In 2006 they were made a National Unit and lead on violence reduction in Scotland. They have developed injury surveillance, introduced a gang intervention and gang exit, and focused on preventing knife carrying and injury. She helps support Medics Against Violence charity in Scotland, set up in conjunction with the Violence Reduction Unit, where Doctors and Surgeons attend schools to give inputs on violence reduction and injury and keeping safe. She is a board member of Simon Community Scotland tackling homelessness and is on the Board of the Scottish Professional Football League.

### Celine McStravick, Director, National Children's Bureau Northern Ireland



Celine has extensive experience of leading on early intervention strategy in Northern Ireland as Director of the National Children's Bureau (NCB). Celine led the development of the Child Poverty Outcomes Framework for the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister which was delivered as part of the Delivering Social Change initiative. In addition, NCB provides technical assistance to the Early Intervention Transformation Programme (EITP), a £30m investment by 6 government departments and Atlantic Philanthropies seeking to transform universal and targeted service delivery across Northern Ireland creating systemic change, ensuring all children and young people have the best start in life. Celine is also a member of the Public Health Agency's Child Development Project Board and has supported the development of the NI Infant Mental Health strategy, the implementation of several evidence based early interventions and provides ongoing evidence regarding what works for children and families.

### Marian Quinn, Chief Executive Officer, Child Development Initiative



Marian manages a project in a disadvantaged community in Dublin, which has designed, delivered and evaluated a suite of prevention and early intervention initiatives for children and families ([www.twcdi.ie](http://www.twcdi.ie)). Previously, she has worked in health services; the Department of Justice (with responsibility for children and families in the asylum process) and has been a youth worker, community worker and nurse. She has developed and delivered a national training programme which she designed, and has a broad experience of working in services at local and national level, in both policy and practice capacities. Marian co-wrote a bestselling non-fiction book with three sisters who were abused by their father ('Click Click'), and is also a blogger, ([www.walkingtheline.net](http://www.walkingtheline.net)).

### Andy Rhodes, Deputy Chief Constable, Lancashire Police



Andy is the Deputy Chief Constable for Lancashire Constabulary and has 24 years policing experience in a range of areas covering investigations, firearms and counter terrorism. He is the national lead for well-being & engagement; a very new portfolio that is developing local and national approaches to workforce resilience. His work on well-being is supported by academic research and practical application in his own force ensuring the links to culture, leadership and strategy are prioritized.

### Honor Rhodes OBE, Trustee, Early Intervention Foundation



Honor started her career teaching in prisons. She worked as a social worker in the East End of London before moving to the voluntary sector. She moved to TCCR in 2010, where part of her job is persuade other agencies to think about co-parents' relationships and couple work generally. Honor's particular interest is in effective interventions with chaotic, chronic multi-problem families, writing short accessible guides for practitioners, 'A Guide to helping troubled families' (FPI 2007) and 'Knowing what you do works: measuring your own effectiveness with families, parents and children' (FPI 2009). On the topic of working with parental couples she has produced, 'A short guide to working with co-parents: why we don't, why we should and how we could' (TCCR 2012). Honor is a NHS Clinical Commissioning Group Board Member in City and Hackney and a Founding Trustee of the Early Intervention Foundation. She was awarded an OBE in July 2010 for her work with children and families.

### Ali Stathers-Tracey, Programme Director, Complex Dependency Programme, Warrington Council



Ali has worked in Central and Local Government roles for 19 years and is currently leading the Transformation Change programme to tackle complex dependency across the authorities in Cheshire. Her substantive role is Head of Integrated Early Support Services for Cheshire West and Chester Council, and was previously Assistant Director for Community Safety and Integrated Childrens Services at Liverpool City Council. She was Lead Policy and Implementation Officer for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence for the Home Office. Ali has also worked directly with Doncaster Children Trust in order to help them set up and establish an independent organisation to manage social care services following failed OFSTED inspections.

### Baroness Philippa Stroud, Chief Executive, Centre for Social Justice



Philippa spent her early career working in the voluntary sector, working with heroin addicts and rehabilitation of gang ex-members and supporting people off the streets and into independent living. In 2004 she became founding member and later the Executive Director of the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ), a think tank chaired by the Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith set up to address the drivers of social breakdown in Britain. In 2006 she took on the role as Director of the Social Justice Policy Group to develop Conservative Party social policy. In 2010 Philippa became Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and in 2012 additionally to the Prime Minister. She is responsible for the development of the Social Justice agenda, working on the Government's key Welfare Reform programme, the introduction of Universal Credit, the creation of Social Investment and the new child poverty measures. Following the 2015 General Election, Philippa was ennobled and returned to run the CSJ as its Chief Executive.

### Professor Kathy Sylva, Professor of Educational Psychology, Oxford University



Kathy Sylva is Honorary Research Fellow and Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Oxford. She has conducted several large-scale studies on the effects of early education and care on children's development. She was a lead researcher on the Effective Pre-school and Primary Education study (EPPE/EPPSE) and is currently co-lead on the national Evaluation of Children's Centres. She has led three randomised controlled trials to evaluate parenting interventions aimed at improving children's behaviour and literacy; the most recent is a parent programme aimed at supporting children's early reading. She has published 7 books and more than 100 papers on early childhood, early literacy, and ways to support families. Currently Kathy is researching the early childhood curriculum across Europe, funded by the EU. She was awarded an OBE in 2008 for services to children and families and in 2014 the Nisbett Award for outstanding contribution to educational research.

### Ian Thomas, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Council



Ian Thomas is currently Strategic Director of Rotherham Borough Council's Children and Young People's Services (DCS) and since 2012 he has been Chair of ADCS Resources and Sustainability Committee. Since becoming the statutory children's officer in Rotherham he has been busy building a new team to respond to the reports of Professor Jay, Louise Casey CB and Ofsted, in what has been the most challenging time for any council. The service is now stronger, with a better response to tackling CSE and a strengthening partnership which is progressing from remedial action to improvement. Prior to this role Ian was DCS and Deputy Chief Executive at Derbyshire County Council, where he led a service which became one of only a few to be rated GOOD across all areas, under Ofsted's tougher Single Inspection Framework.

### Professor Anna Vignoles, Professor of Education, University of Cambridge



Anna Vignoles is Professor of Education and Director of Research at the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge and a trustee of the Nuffield Foundation. Anna has extensive experience of using large scale administrative data to study factors relating to pupil achievement and students' outcomes from education. She has published widely on widening participation into higher education and on the socio-economic gap in pupil achievement. Her research interests include issues pertaining to equity in education, school choice, school efficiency and finance, higher education and the economic value of schooling. Anna has advised numerous government departments, including the DfE, BIS and HM Treasury. She provided advice to the Browne Review of Higher Education Funding, the House of Commons Education and Skills Committee investigation of higher education funding, the House of Lords Economic Affairs Select Committee, as part of their inquiry into education and training opportunities for young people, and Lord Leitch's Review of Skills. Anna is also a member of the ESRC Research Committee.