

Johanne Thomas

**Regional Director - Communications,
Communities and Partnerships
Urban&Civic**

View Johanne's LinkedIn profile →

Johanne Thomas is an experienced communications and community engagement professional of some 20 years, working predominantly within housing and regeneration, across both the public and private sector.

With a degree in Public Relations with Law, Johanne has overseen communications on some of the Midlands' largest housing and regeneration projects when working for the government's Homes England agency, and prior to that led the communications and community development team for the government's New Deal for Communities programme in North East Coventry, where she also set up the regions' first communications social enterprise.

For the past 10 years, Johanne has been with strategic land developer Urban&Civic as part of the core team to bring forward Rugby's urban extension, Houlton, and now leads the communications, communities and partnerships business function across their wider portfolio on sites in Corby, Basingstoke, Newark and Milton Keynes.

Johanne is also Chair of Governors for Houlton School.



Nick Evans

Director of Planning and Active Environments Sport England

View Nick's LinkedIn profile —→

Nick Evans is Director of Planning and Active Environments at Sport England with overall responsibility for Sport England's statutory role on the protection of playing fields and ensuring the land use planning system helps deliver sport and physical activity into everyday life.

He is currently leading on the delivery of Active Environments - creating the spaces and places for us to be physically active in our everyday lives, which forms part of Sport England's published strategy, **Uniting the Movement**.

He has a particular interest in Smart Cities and is passionate about data and how this can be used more effectively in planning, and has led on a number of data related projects at Sport England including **Active Places**, and the initial development of the **OpenActive** programme with the Open Data Institute.



Charlie Crane

Head of Children and Young People Policy Sport England

View Charlie's LinkedIn profile→

Charlie Crane is Head of Children and Young People in the Policy team at Sport England, specialising in physical literacy, Active Lives Children and Young People research and School Games, PE, school sport and physical activity.

Prior to joining Sport England, Charlie enjoyed a varied career spanning the charity, commercial, government, and education sectors; the Active Partnerships National Team, the British Heart Foundation National Centre for Physical Activity and Health, Charnwood Borough Council, Serco Leisure and teaching at Loughborough College and Middlesex University.

Charlie has held national positions since 2010, focused on supporting the health and wellbeing of children and young people at both a policy and programme level.



James Scott

Group Director of Strategy and Planning
Urban&Civic

View James' LinkedIn profile —→

James is the Group Director of Strategy and Planning and a founder member of master developer Urban&Civic.

Prior to Urban&Civic, James specialised in planning and environmental law at Dechert LLP and was part of the senior executive team of Lend Lease Europe.

Having previously served as a non-executive director of East Thames housing association and sat on the Development Committee of L&Q, James is also a senior advisor to Dorrington PLC and a non-executive of Natural England.



Professor Michael Duncan

**Centre Director, Centre for Physical Activity,
Sport and Exercise Sciences
Coventry Univeristy**

View Mike's LinkedIn profile →

Mike Duncan is a BASES-accredited Sport and Exercise Scientist with research interests in the field of children, physical activity, exercise and obesity.

He has published over 400 peer reviewed journal papers, 20 books or chapters in edited books and over 400 peer reviewed conference presentations.

Mike is a Chartered Sport and Exercise Scientist, a Fellow of the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences and a Fellow of the International Motor Development Research Consortium.

Mike has worked extensively with community groups on topics such as physical activity, physical literacy and motor development interventions in children and young people and older adults, including work mapping how the built environment impacts movement behaviours in underserved populations.



Dr. Amy Stringer PhD

PhD Researcher, Centre for Physical
Activity, Sport and Exercise Sciences
Coventry Univeristy

View Amy's LinkedIn profile —→

Dr. Amy Stringer recently earned her PhD, focussing on playground design, children's fundamental movement skills and physical activity, from Coventry University, where her pioneering work explored how the design of a playground and its features can influence children's fundamental movement skills and physical activity. Drawing on her performance-analysis training, honed during her two master's degrees, and work with Hull City Tigers and Team Bath Netball, she brought elite-level rigour to the study of young movers.

As part of the dynamic collaboration with Coventry University and industry partners Urban&Civic, Jupiter Play, and Bradley Murphy Designs, Amy developed unique video-based observational techniques to capture how playground environments shape children's play and development. Her findings are already inspiring real-world design innovations that promise to elevate the impact of future play spaces.

In addition to her doctoral research, Amy contributes her expertise part-time to the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), advancing inclusive health-promotion strategies through research across diverse populations.



Michael Hoenigmann

Managing Director and Business Owner

Jupiter Play & Leisure Ltd.

View Amy's LinkedIn profile →

With over 30 years' experience in sales and leadership roles within the play industry, Michael is the driving force behind Jupiter Play - one of the UK's most innovative designers of play spaces.

As Owner and Managing Director, he leads a passionate team dedicated to reimagining what's possible in outdoor play, delivering standout projects like **Butlin's SKYPARK** and the enchanting play areas at **Cheshire Ice Cream Farm**. Jupiter Play have delivered high quality play projects at numerous strategic development sites across the UK developing long term relationships with clients in this sector.

Michael is a firm believer in the power of collaboration and is known for challenging the Local Authorities to rethink how play areas are procured, advocating for better outcomes for today's children. Under his leadership, Jupiter Play has co-funded this pioneering PhD research to build a robust evidence base that supports positive change across the industry. A champion of innovation, Michael has positioned Jupiter Play at the forefront of the sector—developing products that harness interactive technology to inspire greater physical activity and engagement in new play spaces. Jupiter Play have developed a series of CPD accredited Webinars as a knowledge sharing resource for the industry.

As an Executive member and former Chair of the Association of Play Industries, Michael lobbies for increased funding and recognition of the importance that play has in the development of children and communities.



Jennifer Tindsley

Head of Design

Jupiter Play & Leisure Ltd.

View Jennifer's LinkedIn profile —>

Jennifer Tindsley is a Landscape Architect and the Head of Design at Jupiter Play, where she leads a creative team dedicated to delivering innovative play environments. She joined Jupiter Play in 2018 and brings over 15 years of experience in the play industry, with a proven track record of delivering projects that balance creativity with functionality. Her work is driven by the belief that thoughtfully designed spaces can foster social connection and enhance wellbeing for people of all ages. She also believes that play spaces should spark a sense of wonder - encouraging curiosity, imagination, and joy for everyone who experiences them.

Throughout her career, Jennifer has worked on a wide range of projects across the UK, from large-scale public realm designs to bespoke, community-led play spaces. She has a particular passion for natural play and champions a child-centred approach to design.

In addition to her design practice, Jennifer is an advocate for knowledge-sharing and collaboration within the industry. She regularly contributes to seminars and workshops, speaking on topics such as the importance of access to nature for children and the role of inclusivity in placemaking.



Laura Bradley

Director

Bradley Murphy Design

View Laura's LinkedIn profile →

Laura is Director and Co-founder of Bradley Murphy Design (BMD) and a Chartered Landscape Architect with over 19 years' experience in designing and delivering award-winning residential, urban regeneration, and mixed-use projects.

Laura started her career in garden design and horticulture before moving into Landscape Architecture, and co-founded BMD in 2011.

BMD has gone on to work on some of the UK's largest planned settlements and strategic development sites, building a wealth of knowledge in how to approach design and implement green infrastructure at a strategic scale, optimising landscape and building in biodiversity as an integral part of the design process.

The creation of green spaces that foster inclusivity and access for all is a key driver in Laura's design ethos. Aligned to this is Laura's advocacy for community participation and stakeholder engagement in the shaping of new communities to enable richer and more socially sustainable places. Laura is also a Design Council Expert, helping to champion and embed their Skills for Planet work as part of wider design practice.

Laura and the BMD team continue to work with some of the country's most prominent developers, delivering distinctive design solutions that are underpinned by a big-picture, landscape-led approach.

