

**Tall  
Buildings**  
Fire Safety Network

# 10th International Tall Building HRB Fire Safety Conference

20 & 21st May 2026 | London  
1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf

**GLOBAL**<sub>HSE</sub>  
FIRE SAFETY EXPERTS GROUP

Building & Industry

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Thank you to our sponsors



Please note the conference programme may be subject to change at short notice. For reason beyond the control of the conference organisers



# Welcome to the 10th International HRB Tall Building Fire Safety Conference

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**Russ Timpson**  
Conference Director

Welcome to the 10th International Tall Building HRB Fire Safety Conference sponsored by Canary Wharf.

The conference will take place in the fabulous 'Sand Box' meeting area at the top of One Canada Square, Canary Wharf.

AI, BIM, digital twins and 'Golden Thread' will be a feature of the conference along with innovations across the high rise fire safety disciplines.

Once again, we have a great range of World class speakers. It promises to be a great event. Thanks to all who are contributing, sponsoring and attending.

See you there.

**Go High, Go Well.**

**Russ Timpson, Conference Director**

**[Russ.Timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com](mailto:Russ.Timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com)**

**[www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com](http://www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com)**



# Conference Agenda

## Wednesday 20th May

Time	Agenda
08:00	Reception is open
08:45	Delegates to be seated
09:00	Housekeeping
09:05	Welcome to Canary Wharf – <b>Canary Wharf Safety Director</b>
09:15	<b>Day 1 AM Chair NFCC Phil Garrigan</b>
9:30	<b>Opening Address – Victoria Molho, Deputy Director, Technical Policy and Professional Standards, BSR.</b>
10:40	<b>Facade fire testing and flammability: What are we measuring and why?</b> Matthew Bonner MSci (Hons) PhD AIFireE Trigon Fire
11:10	<b>Case Study - Hotspur Press fire in Manchester</b> Tom Moran, Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service
11:40	Tea Break
12:00	<b>Golden Thread, Governance for Building Safety Risk Management &amp; RPEEPS</b> Ben Blackwood CEng MEng(hons) FIMechE MIFireE Ballymore Asset Management
12:30	<b>AI in Fire Engineering: A Practitioner-Led View from the SFPE UK Chapter.</b> Dr. Simón Santamaria & Gabriel Risco
13:00	Lunch break
13:45	<b>PM Chair – Richard Mills (retired LFB Dep Commisioner)</b>
14:00	<b>'Tech, Trust, and Transparency: Exploring futures for fire safety equity'</b> – Mike Deevy Arup Fire
14:40	<b>Fire Engineering &amp; AI Keith Plowman Global &amp; Dr Ogerta Elezaj</b> – Associate Professor in Computer Science at Birmingham City University and a Fellow of the Alan Turing Institute
15:10	Break
15:25	<b>BIM &amp; Creating digital twins</b> Joey Wilkinson Matterport
15:55	<b>Latest developments in High Rise Firefighting</b> Brent Brooks Toronto Fire Service
16:25	<b>Question Time Panel</b> Dr Barbara Lane Arup, Elspeth Grant, Victoria Molho, Anna O'Donnel
17:30	Close

# Conference Agenda

## Thursday 21st May

Time	Agenda
08:00	Reception is open
08:45	Delegates to be seated
09:00	Housekeeping
09:05	Welcome to Canary Wharf – <b>Adam Robinson Operations Director</b>
09:15	<b>Day 2 Chair Dr Gavin Dunn CEO FPA</b>
9:30	<b>Hong Kong, the city with the most high-rise buildings.</b> Oscar KWAN Chi-kong Assistant Divisional Officer (HKFSD)
10:40	<b>Tall Building Design and Construction: Insights from an Expert Witness</b> Christina Knorr, MD of CJK fire safety consultancy operating across Australia
11:10	<b>Using AI in Fire Safety – Risks and benefits</b> Tom Lawrence Tennyson Suite
11:40	Tea Break
12:00	<b>Preparing Building Safety Cases</b> Emily Harbottle
12:30	<b>CTBUH Fire &amp; Life Safety Committee</b> Dr Cristian Maluk Technical Director
13:00	Lunch break
13:45	<b>PM Chair Ian Moore CEO FIA</b>
14:00	<b>Predicting toxic species generation resulting from external cladding fires</b> Prof Ed Galea BSc, Dip.Ed, PhD, CMath, FIMA, CEng, FIFireE
14:40	<b>IFE Presentation</b> James Lane International President IFE
15:10	Break
15:25	<b>Update on High Rise Fire Safety Development Work</b> Paul Bussey, Andrew Gausden and Brad Crisp, Steven Atrill
16:25	Question Time Panel James lane, Ross O'Loughlin, Gavin Dunne, Aman Sharma
17:30	Close



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# Dedicated Training Course in the Management of Fire Safety in High Rise Buildings



"This is the best competency based fire safety management course I have attended. It was an exceptional course and one I would highly recommend. Your delivery of the course content, follow-up presentation materials and supporting documents, and indeed your breadth of knowledge and experience around the management of fire safety was second to none."



## Tall Building Fire Safety Management Course 2026

Upcoming Course dates - book now to reserve your spot.

Location	Date	Price
London - Face to face   bookitbee.com	9 - 13 March 2026	<b>£2,395.00</b> + Booking Fees
Malta - Face to face   bookitbee.com	30 March - 3 April 2026	<b>€2,195.00</b> + Booking Fees
London - Face to face   bookitbee.com	8 - 12 June 2026	<b>£2,395.00</b> + Booking Fees
Cyprus - Face to face   bookitbee.com	7 - 11 September 2026	<b>€2,195.00</b> + Booking Fees
London - Face to face   bookitbee.com	12 - 16 October 2026	<b>£2,395.00</b> + Booking Fees
London - Face to face   bookitbee.com	16 - 20 November 2026	<b>£2,395.00</b> + Booking Fees

## Book now to reserve your spot

Contact Russ Timpson to book a place  
or an 'In-house' course:

**+44 (0) 7951 190 576**

[russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com](mailto:russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com)

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**Tall  
Buildings**  
Fire Safety Network

# Speaker Profiles



**Russ Timpson**

Founder and organiser of the Tall Building Fire Safety Network

Russ Timpson is the founder and organiser of the Tall Building Fire Safety Network (TBFSN). Started in 2009 the TBFSN seeks to improve fire safety in the Tall Building Environment. RT is a former RN submariner and firefighter. He is a chartered Fire Engineer. On leaving the Fire Service, RT took up the position of Head of Safety for Virgin Atlantic Airways, leading a multi-disciplinary team of safety, health and environmental specialists. RT now works as a consulting resilience engineer. Currently promoting the use of the 'Fire Mark' concept to improved occupant awareness of fire safety in buildings.



**Matthew Bonner**

Matthew is a senior fire engineer and research lead at Trigon Fire Safety, with 3 years consulting experience and 8 years research experience in fire safety. They have design experience across a range of buildings including offices, hotels, student accommodation, assembly buildings, and reviews and conversions of existing/historic buildings. Their research interests include facade flammability and standard testing, machine learning and statistical inference, and computer vision.

Matthew graduated in 2016 from University College London with a First Class MSci in Theoretical Physics.

From 2016–2021 they completed a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College London on the topic of fire safety in building facades. Their thesis studied the possibilities of using data from commercial facade fire safety tests (such as BS 8414 in the UK) to predict the flammability of different facade systems. The work was funded by EPSRC and Arup and involved deep collaboration with Instytut Techniki Budowlanej (ITB) in Poland. The research was awarded the SFPE Student Scholar Award in 2020 and the SFPE UK Chapter Award for best research project in 2021.

From 2021–2022 they worked as a Research Associate at Imperial College London, further studying the fire performance of building facades. The project compared five facades containing increasing amounts of combustible material, tested across five different national facade fire test standards (UK, USA, Germany, Poland, and ISO). The work was funded by Berkeley Group and involved further collaboration with ITB. This work was awarded the Top Abstract Award at the 2025 SFPE Europe Conference.

In 2022 they began working at Trigon Fire Safety as a Fire Engineer and Research Lead, supporting the company to continue to deliver high quality fire safety consultancy services.

# Speaker Profiles



**Richard Mills**

Richard Mills is a distinguished fire service executive with over 30 years in the London Fire Brigade (LFB), culminating in his role as Deputy Commissioner. A transformative leader, he spearheaded critical advancements in high-rise firefighting tactics, emergency response innovation, and firefighter safety. His leadership during major incidents, including the London riots, the Mandarin Oriental hotel fire, and the Grenfell Tower fire, demonstrates his expertise in crisis management and operational resilience.

A driving force behind modernization, Richard led the implementation of the Fire Survival Guidance App, secured the Marauding Terrorist Agreement, and strengthened firefighter mental health support. His strategic oversight was pivotal in navigating LFB through the COVID-19 pandemic and shaping the future of fire service leadership.

Since retiring in 2022, Richard has become a sought-after keynote speaker, guest lecturer, and corporate advisor. He specialises in leadership, organisational performance, operational resilience, and emergency preparedness, advising both public and private sector organisations on best practices in crisis leadership and strategic transformation.



**Professor ED Galea**

Professor ED Galea is the founding director of the Fire Safety Engineering Group (FSEG) of the University of Greenwich in London where he has worked in the area of Computational Fire Engineering (CFE) research since 1986. FSEG are developers of the EXODUS suite of evacuation software and the SMARTFIRE fire simulation software. He is the author of over 300 academic and professional publications and serves on a number of standards committees concerned with fire and evacuation for organisations such as; IMO, ISO, BSI and the SFPE Task Group on Human Behaviour in Fire.

He also sits on several UK Government committees concerned with civil defence. He has served on several major Inquires and legal cases as an expert in fire and evacuation including: the Paddington Rail Crash, the Swiss Air MD11 crash, the Admiral Duncan Pub bombing and is currently an expert serving on the Grenfell Tower Fire Inquiry. His work is applied to the building, aviation, maritime and rail industries.



**Thomas Moran**

Tom is a serving Watch Manager with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and has spent his career in operations, currently based at Salford Fire Station. Salford covers one of the most densely populated areas in the city, with the highest number of high-rise residential buildings in GMFRS. Through years of frontline work, Tom has gained extensive experience attending high-rise and complex urban incidents across Manchester city centre.

Alongside his operational role, Tom is involved in innovation projects focusing on digital communication and improving how incident information is captured and shared. He is particularly interested in linking frontline learning with building design and fire safety planning, helping bridge the gap between operational response and the built environment.



**Tom Lawrence**

Director and Fire Safety Lead,  
Tennyson Suite Limited

Tom Lawrence is the Director and Fire Safety Lead at Tennyson Suite Limited, a role he has held since 2013 after joining the company in 2011. With over a decade of leadership in the fire safety sector, Tom has driven innovation and operational excellence in the high-rise residential safety space.

He was mentored by Pat Scott, a renowned pioneer in fire engineering who, alongside Russ Timpson, was among the first to undertake a formal degree in Fire Engineering. This foundational guidance shaped Tom's forward-thinking approach to fire safety.

Tom has led the digital transformation of fire risk assessments within the company, introducing bespoke artificial intelligence systems to support the drafting of Fire Risk Appraisals of External Walls (FRAEWs) and Fire Strategies. These tools have significantly improved the speed and consistency of reporting for high-rise residential buildings across the UK.

Under his direction, Tennyson Suite has become a key partner for clients seeking compliance with the latest regulatory changes. His AI-led processes have proven instrumental in expediting successful new build and retrofit cladding submissions to the Building Safety Regulator, supporting alignment with the Building Safety Act 2025.



# How to book

**Tall  
Buildings**  
Fire Safety Network

## 10th International Tall Building Fire Safety Conference

20 & 21st May 2026 | Canary Wharf, London

### **Full Delegate | 2-day pass**

10th International High Rise/Tall Building Fire Safety  
Conference (UK) | 20-21 May 2026

**£695.00**

+ 23.94 fees + 139.00 tax

### **Serving Firefighter Rate (proof may be required) | 2-day pass**

10th International High Rise/Tall Building Fire Safety  
Conference (UK) | 20-21 May 2026 (limited places)

**£295.00**

+ 15.47 fees + 59.00 tax

Visit [www.events.bookitbee.com](https://www.events.bookitbee.com)  
or scan the QR code to book online.

Or Contact Russ Timpson

+44 07951 190 576

[russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com](mailto:russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com)



# Speaker Profiles



Joey Wilkinson

Joey Wilkinson is an Enterprise Account Executive at Matterport, partnering with architects, contractors and estate teams across the UK & Ireland to integrate 3D digital twins into everyday practice. His work spans Scan-to-BIM and 3D CAD/Point Cloud deliverables, Autodesk and Procore integrations, and programmes aligned to the Building Safety Act and the Digital Golden Thread. Joey supports organisations from healthcare trusts to utilities and telecoms, focusing on measurable ROI—faster surveys, clearer coordination and stronger asset data for handover and day-to-day operations.



Aman Sharma

MBE, Chief Executive Officer, Totus Digital

Aman is a recognized industry leader having played a key role in transforming fire safety across the built environment. With a background as both a former fire and rescue service officer and a fire engineer, Aman combines extensive operational and technical expertise with a commitment to advancing fire safety through digital innovation and information management.

Between 2019 – 2023, Aman served as Deputy Chair of the Building Regulations Advisory Committee (BRAC), providing strategic guidance to the Secretary of State on building safety standards and regulations. In 2023, he was appointed as one of the inaugural members of the Building Safety Regulator's Building Advisory Committee (BAC), where he currently leads the Approved Document B Technical Review and serves as Chair of the BAC Higher Risk Building Thematic Working Group. In this role, Aman is instrumental in implementing the new regulatory regime for higher-risk buildings and operationalizing the "golden thread" of building information.

Aman is Chair of the British Standards Institution (BSI) committee FSH/0, where he oversees the strategic direction and ongoing development of fire safety standards.

For his services to building and fire safety, HM King Charles made Aman an MBE in the 2025 New Years Honour List.



Gavin Dunn

Gavin assumed the role of Managing Director of the FPA in 2024, having previously been Chief Executive of the Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE) for 6 years. . Originally an architect, Gavin boasts a wealth of experience in the testing, inspection, and certification markets in the sectors of construction, real estate, and sustainability, both in the UK and internationally.

Prior to leading CABE, Gavin was Director of Building Performance at the Building Research Establishment (2013-2018), where he oversaw globally leading environmental assessment methods for the built environment including BREEAM and CEEQUAL. From 2006-2013, Gavin was Group Operations Director for Elmhurst Energy Systems, where he contributed to the development of some of Europe's leading building energy certification systems. He also served as Chairman of the Future Homes Standard Working Group during his membership in the UK Government's Building Regulations Advisory Committee from 2015-2022.



Brent Brooks

Brent Brooks is an international speaker and hands on instructor. Brent teaches HighRise Tactics and large diameter hose movements. Brent is currently a Captain with Toronto Fire Services. His 28 year career with firefighting started at Pearson Airport, with continuing duties at (De Havilland) and Bombardier Aero Space Crash Fire Rescue teams. He is assigned to Toronto's High Rise Unit. Brent has developed the IMS, training and RND for High Rise Operations. Brent's experience includes serving on numerous committees all related to High Rise Firefighting. He continues to travel the world attending conferences, symposiums, and hands on training. He has spoken on complex building systems, help run the 2019, 2020 Canadian HighRise conference, Started the HighRise Round Table in Toronto, hosted the Toronto & Montreal HighRise Summit and is a member of the Council Of Tall Buildings based out of Chicago. He also represents Canada as a member of the T70 Tall Building Safety Committee based out of London England. Brent shares information with Fire Departments from all over the world and has developed a network with subject matter experts related to High Rise Firefighting. Brent has spoke at Firex, Tall Building Conference in London England and "Makin' The Stretch" Conference Colonial Park, PA. Brent continues his education by attend 4 firefighting conferences yearly and never misses HROC in the USA. Brent presents to numerous Fire Departments. Proud retired member of the Canadian Armed Forces.



**Ben Blackwood**

Ben Blackwood is an Engineer focussed on the technical management of challenging high-rise construction projects, including HRBs and the Skypool. Specialising in building safety risk management, Ben is experienced in all phases of project life-cycle. Understanding the needs to construction and asset management data users has been key to the successful delivery of challenging projects from Planning to asset management.

London Construction Specialist of the Year 2022 and active Member of the IMechE and IFE, Ben has shared learning and tools on the subject of the Golden Thread and building safety risk management.



**Anna O'Donnell**

General Manager, Colliers International Property Consultants

Anna O'Donnell is a seasoned Facilities and Property Management professional with over 20 years of experience leading operational, compliance, and ESG performance across major commercial assets. As General Manager of a 1.5 million sq ft multi-occupier campus, she delivers data-led maintenance transformation, large-scale capital projects, and effective stewardship of an £8 million service charge budget, consistently improving efficiency and service quality. A specialist in life-safety excellence, Anna holds NEBOSH General and Fire Safety certifications and the Tall Buildings Fire Safety Management qualification. She embeds rigorous fire safety standards across all operations and maintains a proactive, ongoing commitment to the Building Safety Act, strengthening safety case development, golden-thread information management, and transparent governance to ensure robust building safety outcomes. Her career spans senior positions at Colliers, JLL, Savills, and DTZ (now Cushman and Wakefield), where she has managed diverse portfolios with a consistent focus on operational excellence and compliance integrity..



**Ross O'Loughlin**

Director, Head of Global Technical Servicesal

With an extensive and impressive background having been involved in fire for 25 years, Ross has worked in numerous senior positions within fire safety, training, and operations; in the military and the local authority.

He now heads up our Global Technical Services division, focusing on Quality, Competence and Compliance.



**Elsbeth Grant**

For over 18 years, Elspeth has managed programmes on complex workplace legislation, including fire safety, fire risk assessments and equality and diversity. Her experience includes working with fire engineers and housing providers, advising architects on major social housing refurbishment projects and developing evacuation plans for disabled residents in complex settings such as high-rise and assisted general needs accommodation.

She is a member of the Building Advisory Committee and works closely with Disabled People's Organisations on the legal obligations relating to the evacuation of vulnerable and evacuation-impaired people. Elspeth is also a qualified trainer and has played a key role in designing Triple A Solutions' suite of Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) recognised eLearning courses.



**Oscar KWAN Chi-kong**

Assistant Divisional Officer (HKFSD)

Assistant Divisional Officer, Mr. Oscar KWAN Chi-kong, is a veteran fire officer with over 26 years of service in Hong Kong Fire Services Department (HKFSD). He has extensive expertise in high-rise building firefighting, fire safety compliance and fire investigations.

Oscar currently serves as the Deputy Leader of the Structural Firefighting specialized team (SFT), a specialized team of HKFSD that dedicates to formulate firefighting strategies and tactics for supertall buildings. SFT also provides trainings to Hong Kong and overseas frontline firefighters. He has taken part in numerous large-scale fire incidents. In 2023, he demonstrated his exceptional expertise during a major fire on the rooftop of a 120-metre supertall building under construction, earning him the Director of Fire Service's Commendation, the department's highest award.

At present, he posts in the Fire Protection Engineering Compliance Division to oversee the compliance with fire safety standards in buildings and monitoring of fire safety practitioners. He currently collaborates with the experts from Mainland, China on the integration of cutting-edge and innovative technologies in high-rise building fire-fighting strategy.

Oscar holds a Bachelor of Business (Management in Human Resources) from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University. In 2008, he was a member of Hong Kong Search and Rescue Team deployed to the earthquake-stricken Sichuan, China. In 2019, he was invited to be a speaker at the Super High-rise Building Fire Conference in Beijing, China. At present, he is a Council Member of the Institution of Fire Engineers (Hong Kong Branch).



# Speaker Profiles



**Christina Knorr**

Christina Knorr, Founder and Managing Director of CJK Fire & Safety, a specialised fire safety consultancy operating across Australia. CJK Fire & Safety is involved in a broad range of building projects, including fire safety engineering, cladding risk assessments, construction litigation support, and expert witness services.

A nationally accredited and a highly regarded chartered fire safety engineer, Christina is listed in the National Engineering Register. She is a Fellow member of Engineers Australia and a member of various national and international technical and advisory committees. She actively contributes to the development of national and international guidelines and university programs.

Christina's extensive experience and currency in the construction industry, coupled with her attention to detail and ability to explain technical matters succinctly and efficiently, have established her as a much sought-after expert witness and fire safety consulting specialist. She has been engaged to provide expert witness services on over 50 matters, authoring expert reports, expert determinations and joint reports for court hearings, arbitrations, expert determinations and mediations for various tiers of the court system and tribunals.

These matters have involved disputes over life and safety defects, combustible cladding, post-fire investigations, consultant liability, and risk analysis—including cladding claims for large residential complexes comprising up to four towers of 30 storeys each.



**Steven Attrill**

Pressure Differential Systems Specialist at Novenco Building & Industry Limited, designing smoke ventilation systems including the design and development of pressure differential systems. Previously leading building performance work, at a global technical consultancy, specialising in stack effect and wind impacts on buildings, with over 10 years of experience in tall building design and on-site mitigation through the Europe, Asia, Australia and North American continents.



**Emily Harbottle**

Emily Harbottle is the founder of Cascade Risk Management and the driving force behind Cascade, a purpose-built digital safety case platform transforming how organisations manage HRB risks. A former British Army helicopter pilot, instructor and aviation regulator, Emily further developed her expertise in system safety and risk management during her time with the UK Military Aviation Authority.

Following her military career, Emily launched a consultancy focused on aviation safety, working globally with the International Civil Aviation Organisation to deliver training on Safety Management Systems. Her work has since extended into healthcare, maritime, nuclear and housing, giving her a cross-sector understanding of how complex systems fail and how they can be made safer through proactive, structured risk management processes.

Emily is currently supporting the IStructE as a member of the recently formed Risk Panel and has been involved in writing the upcoming guidance for assessing risk in existing structures.



**Gabriel Risco**

Associate Director at Ashton Fire and Vice-President at SFPE UK Chapter

Gabriel is a Chartered Engineer and Fire Safety Engineer with extensive experience delivering projects across a broad range of sectors. He holds a BSc in Civil Engineering and an MSc in Fire Safety Engineering.

In his current role as Associate Director, Gabriel oversees the successful delivery of complex, large-scale projects while also driving business development initiatives. His design experience ranges from developing fire strategies for heritage, commercial and industrial sectors to delivering high-rise residential and mixed-use developments across the UK, including Gateway 2 submissions. Additionally at Ashton Fire, Gabriel leads the Fire Strategies and Risk Technical Skills Group, focused on improving technical delivery.

He is actively involved in several panels and technical committees, including the Institution of Fire Engineers Membership Application Assessment Panel and the BSI FSH/24 committee on Fire Engineering. As Vice-President of the SFPE UK Chapter, Gabriel contributes to the Chapter's strategic development and engages with the wider fire safety community to address novel challenges and provide learning opportunities.

# Children's Burns Trust are Celebrating 25 Years of Life Changing Support

Children's Burns Trust is dedicated to providing rehabilitation support for burned and scald injured children and their families as well as leading on burn prevention and awareness campaigns.



We have been working in the UK for 25 years, and make a positive difference in three ways:

- Working with others to raise the awareness of burns and scalds including **PREVENTION** campaigns such as National Burn Awareness Day
- Working with professionals to provide direct help and funding for **REHABILITATION**
- Giving direct financial **SUPPORT** to families and hospitals and providing advice on how to access burn related information

We don't receive any government funding, and any donation big or small would help in supporting our work in helping raise vital awareness, preventing burns to children from happening and supporting burn survivors and their families.



# Speaker Profiles



**Victoria Molho**

Victoria Molho has extensive experience of regulatory policy in the built environment. Since 2018, she has driven post-Grenfell reforms, including leading technical policy work on the Building Regulations and introducing key changes to the Approved Documents. She helped legislate for the Building Safety Regulator's core functions to ensure the review of the safety and standards of all buildings and, since 2023, has been part of its senior leadership team. Victoria is at the forefront of leading the transition of the regulator to a new arms-length body, embedding technical expertise and strengthening governance for the future.



**Brad Crisp** | Sertus  
Commercial & Specification Manager

With over a decade of experience in the smoke ventilation industry, Brad combines technical expertise with strong commercial awareness to help clients design and deliver compliant, high-performance smoke control systems. Before joining Sertus, he worked with Elta Fans, where he gained extensive knowledge of mechanical smoke ventilation across a wide range of complex and high-rise projects.

At Sertus, Brad plays a key role in supporting contractors, consultants, and specifiers throughout the project lifecycle — from early-stage design through to installation — ensuring that every system aligns with the latest standards and best practice. Known for his practical approach and clear communication, Brad is passionate about making smoke ventilation simpler and more effective across the built environment.



**Dr. Simón Santamaria**  
Chartered Fire Engineer and Technical  
Development Director at Stantec

Simón is a Chartered Engineer with extensive experience in fire safety engineering for tall and complex buildings. He holds an MSc and PhD in Fire Safety Engineering from the University of Edinburgh, where his research advanced understanding of material behaviour and fire dynamics. His early career included technical support to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, contributing to the analysis of façade fire development mechanisms.

At Stantec, Simón leads technical development within the Fire Engineering division, focusing on competence, quality, and performance-based strategies for high-rise projects in the UK. His work spans Gateway 2 submissions, façade risk assessments, remediation strategies, and integration of advanced modelling approaches to demonstrate performance.

Simón is actively involved in shaping the profession as President of the SFPE UK Chapter and a member of BSI drafting panels, including the emerging BS 9994 on fire safety strategies. He advocates for transparent, defensible engineering judgement and the Golden Thread as essential components of high-rise safety.

For this conference, Simón will deliver, jointly with Gabriel Risco, the perspective from the SFPE UK Chapter on artificial intelligence in fire engineering, exploring how AI can enhance design, review, and modelling workflows while addressing critical questions around competence, validation, and professional judgement. Together, they will outline opportunities, boundaries, and practical pathways for responsible adoption of AI in tall building safety.



**Dr Barbara Lane**  
FREng FIAE FRSE CEng

Dr Barbara Lane is a chartered engineer and specialises in fire safety engineering.

She is a Fellow of fire safety at Arup, and has worked on complex projects around the world over a period of 30 years.

Since her role as Expert to the Grenfell Inquiry finished in 2024 Barbara has become particularly interested in policy making to produce fire safety equity and complex fire risk management. She is a passionate advocate for the importance of social justice as a governing parameter in the work of fire safety engineers.



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# Speaker Profiles



**Phil Garrigan**  
OBE KFSM

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) is the professional voice of the UK fire and rescue service and the membership body for all 50 UK fire and rescue services, Chief Fire Officers and senior managers.

Phil Garrigan became NFCC Chair on 1 April 2025, following a long and successful career in the fire and rescue service (FRS). He is a former Vice-Chair at NFCC and was previously NFCC's National Lead for Children and Young People.

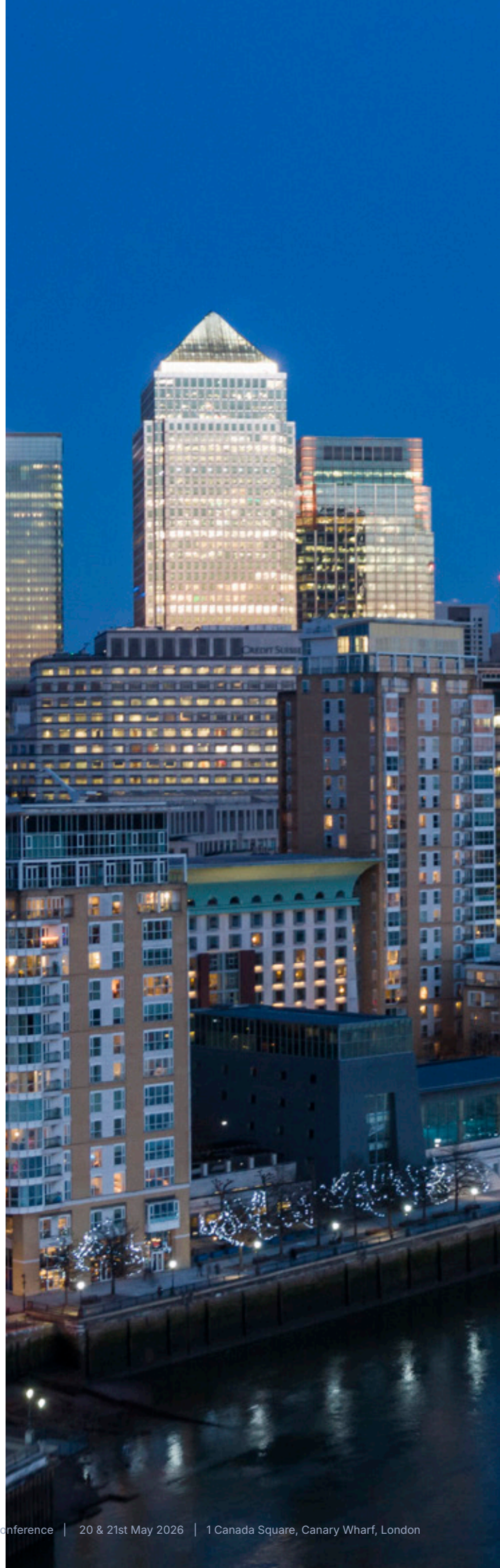
Having joined Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service in 1990, Phil progressed from the role of Firefighter to Chief Fire Officer during a career spanning 35 years.

He brings a strong community focus to his role as NFCC Chair, recognising the unique position of trust and respect in which the FRS is held, and the professionalism of fire and rescue service staff in tackling the underlying factors affecting risk.

His leadership has brought the work of the fire and rescue service with regards to children and young people to the forefront of sector delivery, allowing the FRS to transform the lives of hundreds of children and young people across the UK.

As Chief Fire Officer in Merseyside, Phil was a member of the Operations Coordination Committee, with Merseyside FRS overseeing National Resilience capabilities on behalf of the Home Office. He was a National Strategic Advisor overseeing a number of national events and major incidents, including his leadership of the UK's response to COVID-19, Merseyside's response to the terror attacks in Liverpool and Southport as well as the international deployment of fire engines into Ukraine.

In addition to his role within the fire sector, Phil is a Trustee and member of the Board at both the Hive Youth Zone, Rainbow Trust Education foundation and the Liverpool FC foundation, as well as being an Ambassador for the Cash for Kids Charity.









# Notes



# Notes





## Conference Location:

The Sand Box - Level 39  
One Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London  
E14 5AB

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# Tall Buildings

Fire Safety Network

**CONTACT CONFERENCE DIRECTOR**  
**CONTACT CONFERENCE TEAM:**

**+44 07951 190 576** if you have any questions on the days 18 & 19th June



**Book Your Spot Now:**



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**Tall Buildings**  
Fire Safety Network

[www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com](http://www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com)