

## **Professor David Hill CBE**

DPhil(Oxon), CEnv, FCIEEM

### **Environment and Natural Resources**

David is Chairman and owner/founder of The Environment Bank Ltd, a founding member of Natural England, the governments' statutory advisers on the natural heritage and its Deputy Chair since 2011, and a member of the Board of the UK government's Joint Nature Conservation Committee. He is also a member of the government's Ecosystem Markets Taskforce and Chair of the Northern Upland Chain Nature Partnership covering the vast upland areas of the Yorkshire Dales and Northumberland National Parks, Nidderdale and North Pennines Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Forest of Bowland. David lives with his family in the Nidderdale AONB and they also have a small farm in the Yorkshire Dales National Park which includes part of the Muker Meadows Special Area of Conservation, recently listed as one of the nations 60 Coronation Meadows.

He founded The Environment Bank (EBL) in 2008 in order to promote the concept of habitat banking and environmental impact accounting in the UK, to facilitate proper and effective compensation for development. EBL has created the infrastructure that will encourage the growth of investment markets in biodiversity and ecosystem services, including biodiversity compensation (enhancement through development funding), thereby making nature and natural resources economically visible to society, corporations and individuals. David has also established the Environmental Markets Exchange (EME), which is the Environment Bank's online register of biodiversity enhancement sites. By submitting an Expression of Interest to the Environment Bank, landowners, conservation groups and farmers can register sites on the EME to be eligible for conservation funding through biodiversity compensation finance from development. Conservation credits can be purchased through the EME by developers looking to compensate for their environmental impacts. In the future it is envisaged that the EME will enable non-development sector companies who have a residual impact on natural capital to compensate for this impact by buying conservation credits thereby putting something back for nature. Iconic protected landscapes such as National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are now bringing forward sites for investment through this route.

David has a doctorate in ecology from the University of Oxford. He worked for a number of NGO's before establishing one of the first environmental consultancies in the UK, which he merged with a plc in 2002. He has a strong professional and personal interest in biodiversity conservation and has worked in the planning and development control sector for over 25 years, advising corporate clients and developers on the environmental impacts of their projects across a range of sectors including minerals and waste, ports, housing, distribution centres, energy/renewables, recreation, highways, airports, infrastructure and water.

### **Expertise and roles**

Development of commercial businesses in the environmental land-based consultancy and professional services sectors. Investment business generation for the natural environment. Biodiversity conservation, strategic evaluation of environmental issues and



independent facilitation of solutions between developers, stakeholders and interested parties relating to planning and development, environmental resource use, conservation of nature and natural resources. Promotion of the value of the natural environment to a range of stakeholders – developers, planners, planning authorities, large corporates, landowners, lawyers. Public sector national Government non-executive director experience. Expert witness to a large number of public inquiries.

Member of the Government's Ecosystem Markets Taskforce (2011 – 2013). Member of the Audit and Risk Committees of Natural England (2006 – present) and JNCC (2006 – 2013). Member of the Water Resources Strategy Steering Group of Essex and Suffolk Water and Northumbrian Water, relating to potential effects on protected sites, mechanisms for the adaptation to climate change (2004 – 2014). Chair of the Ecological Advisory Group for Abberton Reservoir SSSI, SPA, Ramsar site. Chair of the environmental review panel for the London Array Offshore Wind Farm (2009 – 2013) with particular relevance to the Outer Thames Estuary and Marshes Special Protection Area.