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Promoting a diverse and sustainable environment

THE CITY ENVIRONMENT DEBATE LIVING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE How will we achieve the global behaviour change required?

Arup
8 Fitzroy Street London W1T 4BJ

On Tuesday 6th October 2026

Doors open at 16:00 and event will start at 16:30 and finish at 19:30

We already know most of what needs to be done to live in harmony with nature. That said, there is great uncertainty nationally and globally on how to achieve the change required. Also, the question increasingly being asked is 'Will we achieve the state of living in harmony with nature?'.

At our third City Environmental Debate, eminent speakers from leading organisations will share their views on this question, after which the topics will be discussed with the audience. A written report of the main conclusions will be distributed widely.

Speakers:

Living with nature:	Tom Butterworth	Arup
Global behaviour change:	Professor Susan Michie	UCL
The role of business:	Lindsay Hooper	CISL
UNSDG	Signe Norberg	ISEP

Chair:	Ben Smith	Arup
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The debate is free and by invitation only. Places are limited and available on a first come first served basis. **To reserve a place please register using the link** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-city-environment-debate-living-in-harmony-with-nature-tickets-1993314263621?aff=oddtcreator>

The debate will be held under the Chatham House Rule. It will start with 8 minute presentations by the speakers followed by the debate which will finish at 18:30. Afterwards there will be networking opportunities and drink refreshments till 19:30.

If you have any questions or would like to suggest someone else to be invited, please contact Allan Barton at barton.allan@outlook.com

We are grateful to Arup for sponsoring this event

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Chair and Speaker biographies

Ben Smith

Ben is a chartered environmental consultant with 25 years' experience in sustainable development, energy strategy, climate change and urban resilience. He has delivered a range of consultancy commissions for public and private sector clients in the UK and internationally. His work has included research, policy development, strategy development, training and capacity building, planning support and environmental assessment. He has supported over twenty city strategies on climate change and / or urban resilience. He is currently Arup's UK Geography Leader.

Tom Butterworth

Tom is the Nature Leader for ARUP and has extensive experience in nature positive, natural capital and biodiversity assessments. Tom supports clients in public and private sectors in meeting their objectives and targets together with their objectives for natural capital and nature. Tom has delivered biodiversity and natural capital assessments across many high-profile projects, particularly in the energy, road, and rail sectors. Tom has over 27 years' experience working for wildlife. Over this time Tom has led practical management of protected sites, developed local, regional, and national biodiversity strategies and policies, led programs of research, and managed the delivery of the England's biodiversity strategy.

Professor Susan Michie

Susan Michie, FMedSci, FAcSS, FBA is Professor of Health Psychology and Director of the Centre for Behaviour Change at University College London, UK. (www.ucl.ac.uk/behaviour-change).

Professor Michie's research focuses on human behaviour change in relation to health and the environment: how to understand it theoretically and apply theory and evidence to intervention and policy development, evaluation and implementation. Her research, collaborating with disciplines such as information science, environmental science, computer science and medicine, covers population, organisational and individual level interventions. She is an investigator on 15 research projects and has published >550 journal articles and several books, including the Behaviour Change Wheel: A Guide to Designing Interventions.

Lindsay Hooper

Lindsay is Chief Executive of the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL), where she works with businesses and financial institutions to address climate, nature and social risks and to mobilise innovation and investment for market-wide action.

She previously led CISL's international education portfolio, building a global community of more than 40,000 executives. Her external work spans board-level engagement, strategy support and cross-sector collaborations across critical sectors: finance, the built environment, food, manufacturing and mining, as well as work with major cities and state-owned enterprises in China and the Middle East.

Signe Norberg

Signe Norberg is the Director of Policy and Public Affairs at the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP). She is responsible for ensuring impactful policy and guidance which supports sustainable change that delivers for the environment, society and the economy. Prior to joining ISEP, Signe was the Head of External Affairs at the Aldersgate Group, where she also served as its Interim Executive Director. She has experience of both the public and private sector having worked at Southwark Council and Weber Shandwick, driving impactful public affairs work across a range of areas including environment, public health, housing and food and drink. She has also served as a Board Member of Broadway Initiative and Advisor to Unchecked UK.

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