

Dear All,

On the 16<sup>th</sup> June 09 at the Social Event in the Whately Hall Hotel, I announced my resignation as Chair of Young Enterprise Oxfordshire's Northern Area Board.



I have had a fab time as Chair these past two and a half years. From a pretty low base, together the board and I have brought the Northern Area to a firm footing with regular events and our own area finals and trade fairs. I would like to thank all of the other board members for their hard work during this tough period, and say well done to Development Manager, Sarah Middleton for her sterling work right across the county. Thanks also to Jeff Lloyd, our Development Manager until Christmas 2008, for believing in me at the very start.

I am delighted to say that I have received unanimous approval from my fellow board members to hand on the reins to Rob McKay, who is well known by many involved locally in YE. We have been able to time things so that the handover minimises disruption for our link teachers and advisers.

My thanks to Rob for agreeing to take the helm; I know he has some great ideas and I want him to bring those to fruition and give him my full support. For this reason, I will step down from the Northern Area board totally. Rob's energy and enthusiasm for YE comes from a base of being an Adviser himself at Bloxham in 07/08 then at the Warriner school in 08/09. He guided both of his groups through to the Area Finals, and in the case of Bloxham, to the County Finals and understands Company Programme well. Rob's experience and connections in economic development will be a great asset.

I feel I have achieved what I set out to do, back in 2007. Those who know me will be aware that I am in my element when faced with a big challenge; one which requires a transformation. With the progress the board and I have made in this respect, a different style of leadership is required to move things forward. Remaining as Chair would not play to my strengths, but Rob is ideal, and will focus on pushing the board's agenda for innovation and quality in the North. My involvement representing YE will not stop, as I will continue to help across the county through my Federation of Small Businesses committee role, and I hope in other ways too! I will never cease to be a fan of YE.

Please give Rob your wholehearted support and help him get his bearings. Rob and I are meeting to complete the handover on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. I will be liaising with Sarah Middleton and YESE CEO, Jan Sharman over the other items I have been involved in that go beyond the Northern Oxfordshire remit.

Best of luck to all our teachers and advisers in Northern Oxfordshire – see you at the 09/10 Area Finals!

Kind Regards,

Sue

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Managing Director



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