

Board of Directors

Information Brochure

**GREAT
WESTERN
CREDIT
UNION**



About Great Western Credit Union

At Great Western Credit Union, we're dedicated to providing fair, ethical, and affordable financial services that help people across our region live with confidence. As a member-owned cooperative, everything we do supports our shared goal: **becoming better off, together.**

We exist to improve financial wellbeing, support local communities, and offer fair choices for people who may be underserved by the mainstream financial sector.

What we do

- Offer fair, affordable loans
- Support members to build strong saving habits
- Keep money rooted in our communities
- Put members first through ethical, responsible finance
- Operate on cooperative values, not shareholder interests



Why join our board?

Our volunteer Board of Directors plays a vital role in guiding how we're run and ensuring we stay true to our mission.

Joining the board means:

- Helping shape the future of ethical, community-focused finance
- Supporting members who might otherwise be excluded from fair financial services
- Bringing your experience to decisions that directly impact local people
- Strengthening financial wellbeing across Bristol, Bath, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire, and Dorset

We welcome people who believe finance should be fair, inclusive, and rooted in community benefit.



Meet our board

Denis Lindsay - Chair

Denis joined the GWCU board in 2019 and brings extensive leadership and financial expertise to his role as Chair. A Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute and a Fellow of the Institute of Leadership, he has led major global investment programmes for multinational organisations throughout his career.

Driven by strong values in social justice, Denis volunteers his time to support fair, ethical finance. He is deeply committed to improving financial equality and championing opportunities for communities across Bristol.



Meet our board

Peter Kellett - Secretary

Peter has served as Board Secretary since joining GWCU in 2021. A non-practising solicitor, he is part of the College of Experts for The Office for Environmental Protection and an Honorary Professor of Practice at UCL's Centre for Law and the Environment.

Much of Peter's career has centred on environmental governance, including his role as lead lawyer for the Environment Agency. He brings a strong commitment to sustainability and purpose-driven finance, helping ensure GWCU continues to support members in a responsible, ethical way.



Carmen Tilbury - Director

Carmen began volunteering with GWCU in 2025 and brings experience from across financial services, regulatory compliance, and social-impact organisations. She is a Senior Business Analyst at PoloWorks and a Non-Executive Director at Babbasa, supporting young people from underrepresented backgrounds.

Her values are rooted in civil rights, social action, and economic empowerment. Carmen is committed to improving financial inclusion, and her work on the board helps extend GWCU's positive impact across the region.



Meet our board

Paul Jones - Director

Paul joined the board in 2023 and currently works for the British Business Bank, delivering regional funding across the South West. With more than 35 years of experience in banking and finance, including senior roles at global institutions such as Lloyds Bank, Paul brings valuable insight to GWCU's strategy and governance.

Volunteering is important to him, and he has advised many charities and boards over the years. Paul is strongly motivated by improving social mobility and creating opportunities for people across our communities.



Ian Walters - Director

Ian joined the board in 2024 after retiring from a long and successful career in banking. Most recently Managing Director of Commercial Banking at Metro Bank, Ian has also held several senior and executive roles across major UK institutions, including NatWest Group.

He brings deep experience in risk governance, credit management, and regulatory engagement. Ian fully supports GWCU's mission to serve people traditionally underserved by mainstream financial services and is passionate about helping us continue to grow fair, ethical finance.



How our board works

- Volunteer directors elected by members
- Oversees strategy, governance, and long-term planning
- Ensures we stay aligned with our mission and cooperative values
- Supports safe, ethical, responsible financial decision-making

Our board helps ensure everything we do puts members first.

Interested in joining our board?

We welcome people who share our belief that finance should be fair, inclusive, and community-focused.

To find out more or get involved:

- Visit: greatwesterncu.org/corporate-governance
- Email: info@gwcu.org.uk

