

The Channel 4 Board

Executive

Alex Mahon
Chief Executive



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Jonathan Allan
Chief Operating Officer



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Ian Katz
Chief Content Officer



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Non-Executive

Sir Ian Cheshire
Chair



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Sir Roly Keating
Non-Executive



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Sarah Sands
Non-Executive



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Lord Chris Holmes MBE
Deputy Chair



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Dawn Airey
Non-Executive



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Paul Geddes
Non-Executive



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Andrew Miller
Non-Executive



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David Kogan OBE
Non-Executive



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Michael Lynton
Non-Executive



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Tess Alps
Non-Executive



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The Channel 4 Board **cont.**

Alex Mahon Chief Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Alex became the first female CEO of a major UK broadcaster when she joined Channel 4 in October 2017.

Alex was CEO of global producers Shine Group, where she oversaw the build-and-buy strategy of building up 27 production labels over 12 international territories and was responsible for all content strategy, including the launch of global scripted divisions and the rollout of formats internationally, and then was CEO of Foundry, a global software provider.

Appointment to the Board:

30 October 2017

Term completion:

N/A

Committee membership:

Attends Remuneration and Audit & Risk Committee meetings but is not a member

Current external appointments:

Non-executive director, Chanel Inc.
Member, Creative Industries Council

Previous roles:

Executive

CEO, Foundry

CEO, Shine Group

COO, Talkback Thames

Director of Commercial & Strategy, FremantleMedia

Non-executive

Deputy Chairman, Foundry

Senior Independent Director, Ocado plc

Chair, RTS Programme Awards

Appeal Chair, Scar Free Foundation

Chair, Bandstand

Non-Executive Director, Edinburgh International Television Festival

Ian Katz Chief Content Officer

Responsibilities and skills:

Ian has overall responsibility for the creative output across Channel 4, its portfolio of channels and on streaming. He leads the creative commissioning team to ensure Channel 4's unique remit to represent the whole country, challenge with purpose and reinvent entertainment is reflected in its programmes and content.

Under his leadership, the channel has earned a slew of awards for shows including *It's A Sin*, *End of the Fucking World*, *Help*, *The Big Narstie Show*, *Stath Lets Flats*, *Jade*, *For Sama*, *Brexit: The Uncivil War*, and *Leaving Neverland*.

Ian has a background in both broadcast and newspaper journalism and digital innovation. He was editor of the BBC's flagship daily news and current affairs programme *Newsnight* from 2013 to 2017.

Previously he worked in a wide range of writing and editing roles at *The Guardian*, where as Deputy Editor and Head of News (2008-2013), he oversaw the groundbreaking WikiLeaks and phone-hacking investigations, as well as leading *The Guardian's* strategy to become a global leader on environment coverage. Ian was responsible for developing *The Guardian's* first website and played a central role in *The Guardian's* digital development over the subsequent 15 years.

Appointment to the Board:

8 January 2018

Term completion:

N/A

Committee membership:

None

Current external appointments:

None

Previous roles:

Executive

Editor, *BBC Newsnight*

Deputy Editor and Head of News, *The Guardian*

Jonathan Allan Chief Operating Officer

Responsibilities and skills:

Since becoming Channel 4's Chief Operating Officer, Jonathan has led the organisation's successful public policy response to the proposed privatisation of Channel 4, devising 4:The Next Episode as an alternative strategy under continued public ownership. He was also a key contributor to Channel 4 successfully navigating the Covid crisis, launched the five-year Future4 strategy underpinning the broadcaster's digital transformation, significantly increasing the streaming of Channel 4 content and new revenues and also led its landmark 4 All The UK Nations & Regions strategy. In his previous role as Chief Commercial Officer, Jonathan transformed Channel 4 Sales into an industry leader in delivering commercial innovation by working with brands and agencies to adapt and evolve in the face of unprecedented technological advances. Now in its fifth year, Jonathan established Channel 4's Diversity in Advertising Award in which the broadcaster committed to give away £1 million of commercial airtime every year to improve diverse and inclusive representation in TV advertising.

Appointment to the Board:

13 September 2011

Term completion:

N/A

Committee membership:

Attends Remuneration and Audit & Risk Committee meetings but is not a member

Current external appointments:

Board Member, Advertising Association

Panel Member, ASA Industry Advisory Panel

Previous roles:

Executive

Managing Director, OMD UK

TV Director, OMD UK

Non-executive

Board Member, Thinkbox

Sir Ian Cheshire Chair

Responsibilities and skills:

Sir Ian was Group Chief Executive of Kingfisher plc from January 2008 to early 2015. Before that he was Chief Executive of B&Q from 2005.

He is currently Chair of Spire Healthcare plc, Chair of the environmental investment trust Menhaden plc, and a non-executive director of BT plc. He is also Chair of the Prince of Wales Charitable Fund, and of the Mental Health at Work Leadership Council. Sir Ian has also served as Chair of Barclays UK, the British Retail Consortium, Debenhams plc and Maisons Du Monde SA, and as Senior Independent Director at Whitbread plc.

In public service, he was lead non-executive director at the Cabinet Office, he has chaired the Ecosystem Markets Task Force, the Economy Honours Committee and currently chairs the independent Food Farming and Countryside Commission. He has won a number of awards, including lifetime contributions to retailing, green business and the Fortune WEF award for leadership in the circular economy.

Sir Ian was knighted in the 2014 New Year Honours for services to business, sustainability and the environment and is a Chevalier of the Ordre National du Merite of France.

Appointment to the Board:

11 April 2022

Term completion:

10 April 2025

Committee membership:

No formal membership, but attends Audit & Risk and Remuneration Committee meetings

Current external appointments:

Chair, Spire Healthcare plc

Chair, Menhaden plc

Non-Executive Director, BT plc

Chair, Prince of Wales Charitable Fund

Chair, Mental Health at Work Leadership Council

Chair, Land Securities Group plc

Previous roles:

Non-executive

Chair, Barclays UK

Chair, British Retail Consortium

Chair, Debenhams plc

Chair, Maisons Du Monde SA

Senior Independent Director, Whitbread plc

Sir Roly Keating Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Roly brings extensive experience of public service media from his work in programme-making, editorial and senior executive roles at the BBC. His current role at the British Library provides additional perspective from another cultural organisation within the DCMS group.

Appointment to the Board:

5 December 2016

Term completion:

3 September 2023

Committee membership:

Ethics and Remuneration Committees

Current external appointments:

Chief Executive, **The British Library**

Trustee, **The British Library Trust**

Trustee, **American Trust for the British Library**

Trustee, **The Gilson Trust**

Trustee, **Friends of the National Libraries**

Trustee, **Clare Leadership Programme**

Trustee, **The Busby Trust**

Director, **Marine Cottages Residents Ltd**

Previous roles:

Executive

Director of Archive Content, **BBC**

Controller, **BBC Two and BBC Four**

Controller, **Arts Commissioning, BBC**

Head of Programming, **UKTV**

Non-executive

Trustee, **Turner Contemporary**

Board Member, **Barbican Centre**

Chair, **Knowledge Quarter London Ltd**

Chair, **Conference of European National Librarians**

Lord Chris Holmes MBE Deputy Chair

Responsibilities and skills:

Lord Holmes is a passionate advocate for the potential of technology and the benefits of diversity and inclusion. He is a member of the influential House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology and has previously co-authored House of Lords Select Committee Reports on Democracy and Digital Technologies, Intergenerational Fairness, Artificial Intelligence, Financial Exclusion, Social Mobility and Digital Skills. He produced an independent review for the government into opening up public appointments to disabled people. He has published a report, "Distributed Ledger Technologies for Public Good: leadership, collaboration and innovation" calling on the government to look at the challenges and opportunities of this technology for improving public services. An ex-Paralympic swimmer, Chris won nine gold, five silver and one bronze medal across four Games, including a record haul of six golds at Barcelona 1992.

Appointment to the Board:

5 December 2016

Term completion:

10 June 2024

Committee membership:

Remuneration Committee (Chair)

Current external appointments:

Director and sole shareholder, **CHConserve Ltd**

Director and sole shareholder, **CHedserve Ltd**

Advisor, **BPP University**

Advisor, **RTGS Global**

Advisor, **Boston Ltd**

Previous roles:

Executive

Lawyer, **Ashurst**

Non-executive

Non-Executive Director, **Equality and Human Rights Commission**

Non-Executive Director, **UK Sport**

Member, **Select Committees on Digital Skills**

and **Social Mobility, House of Lords**

Director, **Paralympic Integration at LOCOG**

Sarah Sands Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Sarah's career spans 35 years in news, current affairs and as an author. She has held some of the most senior editorial positions in the industry at the Daily Telegraph and Sunday Telegraph, Daily Mail, Readers' Digest, London Evening Standard and the BBC's Today programme.

Appointment to the Board:

6 December 2021

Term completion:

5 December 2024

Committee membership:

Ethics Committee

Current external appointments:

Non-executive director, **Berkeley Group**

Acting/Deputy Chairman, **British Council**

Trustee, **Science Museum**

Board director, **Hawthorn Advisors**

Previous roles:

Executive

Editor, **BBC Radio 4 Today**

Editor, **London Evening Standard**

Editor, **Sunday Telegraph**

Deputy Editor, **Daily Telegraph**

Non-executive

Trustee, **Index on Censorship**

Non-executive director, **London First**

Andrew Miller Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Andrew is Chief Executive of Motability Operations plc, a role he took up at the end of 2020. An accountant by training and a leader in digital transformation, Andrew has also held senior executive positions at a number of multinational consumer and media groups. These include Food Folk Group Holdings – owner of the McDonald's licence for the Nordics Scandinavia – Guardian Media Group and Autotrader, taking the latter from a print magazine to a digital platform. Prior to this, Andrew held senior finance roles at Frito-Lay Europe, Procter & Gamble and Bass. He has also held Non-Executive Director roles and was Audit Chair at the AA plc and Ocean Outdoor Media plc.

Appointment to the Board:

1 June 2020

Term completion:

31 May 2023

Committee membership:

Audit Committee (Chair)

Current external appointments:

Chief Executive, **Motability Operations plc**

Previous roles:

Executive

Director, **Guardian Media Group plc**

Director, **Auto Trader Holding Limited**

Director, **Food Folk Group Holdings AS**

Director, **Top Right Group (Ascential plc)**

Non-executive

Audit Chair, **AA plc**

Audit Chair, **Ocean Outdoor Media**

The Channel 4 Board cont.

Tess Alps Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Tess began her career in advertising, becoming the Sales Director of Yorkshire and Tyne-Tees TV, before joining global media agency PHD, as its Broadcast Director. At PHD, she ran various group companies, including those specialising in internet advertising, sponsorship, and econometrics, eventually becoming its UK Chair. She left PHD to set up Thinkbox, the marketing body for commercial television in the UK, spending 14 years there as its founding CEO and latterly as its Chair. Tess is currently a Council member of the Advertising Standards Authority.

Appointment to the Board:

6 December 2021

Term completion:

5 December 2024

Committee membership:

Remuneration Committee

Current external appointments:

Council Member, Advertising Standards Authority

Fellow, Royal Television Society

Previous roles:

Executive

Sales Director, YTV & TTTV

Director, PHD

Exec Chair, PHD

CEO, Thinkbox

Non-executive

Chair, Thinkbox

Dawn Airey Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Dawn's career includes roles as Chair and CEO of Channel 5, Managing Director of Channels and Services for BSkyB, Managing Director of Global Content at ITV and Senior Vice-President of Europe, Middle East and Africa at Yahoo. She is currently Chair of the National Youth Theatre, Barclays FA Women's Super League and FA Women's Championship, and the Digital Theatre Group. Dawn acted as the Group's Interim Chair from January to April 2022.

Appointment to the Board:

6 December 2021

Term completion:

5 December 2024

Committee membership:

Remuneration Committee

Current external appointments:

Chair, National Youth Theatre

Chair, Barclays FA Women's Super League

Chair, FA Women's Championship

Chair, Digital Theatre Group Limited

Director, Blackbird plc,

Director, Grosvenor Limited

Vice President, Royal Television Society

Previous roles:

Non-executive

Chair, Channel 5

Non-executive Director, Thomas Cook plc

Non-executive Director, Easyjet plc

David Kogan Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

David's career began in newspapers and as a producer at the BBC. He was Global Managing Director of Reuters Television and went on to be founder and CEO of strategy and commercial rights negotiator Reel Enterprises, specialising in commercial negotiations in media and sport. After he sold Reel to the Wasserman Media Group, he became CEO of Magnum Photos and latterly the co-founder of the Women's Sports Group. David has written two books on political history.

Appointment to the Board:

6 December 2021

Term completion:

5 December 2024

Committee membership:

Audit & Risk Committee

Current external appointments:

Director, Kogan Page Limited

Co-founder, Women's Sports Group Ltd

Director, Labourlist Limited

Director, David Kogan Limited

Previous roles:

Executive

Director, Reuters Television

Director, Reel Enterprises

CEO, Magnum Photos

Paul Geddes Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Paul is the CEO of QA, a digital education and skills provider, and was previously CEO of Direct Line Group, the insurance group and home of the Direct Line, Churchill, Privilege and Green Flag brands. Paul has built brands using the power of TV advertising throughout his 27-year career. His marketing career began at Procter & Gamble and then retailing, before joining NatWest and RBS retail banking and then entering general management. From 2009 he took over RBS' insurance business and floated it as Direct Line Group in 2012.

Paul's experience of running mass-market, multi-site and increasingly digital consumer businesses in competitive and fast-changing markets, as well as helping organisations with their technical training and talent, is a valuable addition to the Channel 4 Board.

Appointment to the Board:

5 December 2016

Term completion:

3 September 2023

Committee membership:

Audit & Risk Committee

Current external appointments:

CEO, QA Limited

Director, QA Limited subsidiaries

Previous roles:

Executive

CEO of Direct Line Insurance Group plc

Director, Churchill Insurance Company Ltd

Director, DL Insurance Services Ltd

Director, UK Insurance Ltd

CEO, RBS Group mainland UK retail banking

Other senior roles in multi-channel retailing and marketing at companies including Kingfisher, GUS and Procter & Gamble

Non-executive

Deputy Chairman, Association of British Insurers

Director, Direct Line Group Ltd

Director, Direct Line Insurance Ltd

Director, Indemnity Insurance Ltd

Director, The National Insurance & Guarantee Corporate Ltd

Director, Protection Life Company Ltd

Michael Lynton

Non-Executive

Responsibilities and skills:

Michael is currently Chairman of Snap Inc, a position he has held since 2016 having joined Snap's Board in 2013. He has also been Chairman of Warner Music Group since 2019.

Previously, Michael served as Chairman and CEO of Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc from 2004 until 2017, and additionally as CEO of Sony Entertainment Inc and Sony Corporation of America from 2012 to 2017.

Prior to joining Sony, he worked at The Walt Disney Company – where he started Disney Publishing and subsequently served as President of Disney's Hollywood Pictures; Pearson plc – where he was Chairman and CEO of Penguin Group; and Time Warner – where he was CEO of AOL Europe, President of AOL International, and President of Time Warner International.

Michael is also currently a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian, the Council on Foreign Relations, the RAND Corporation, and serves on the Board of Trustees of the Tate.

Appointment to the Board:

25 April 2022

Term completion:

24 April 2025

Committee membership:

None

Current external appointments:

Chairman, **Snap Inc.**

Chairman, **Warner Music**

Trustee, **Tate**

Regent, **Smithsonian**

Previous roles:

Chairman and CEO, **Sony Entertainment**

President, **AOL TimeWarner International** and CEO, **AOL Europe**

Chairman and CEO, **Penguin Publishing Group**

Former Members

Charles Gurassa

Chair

Appointment to the Board

28 January 2016

Term completion

27 January 2022