## SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS

## **Biodiversity Net Gain and Environmental Update** Speaker Bios

19 March 2024



**David Myers** Director, Planning, Squire Patton Boggs

David Myers brings more than 15 years' experience as a planning lawyer. He has a particular interest in biodiversity net gain and has been providing advice and support on the same for some time linked to the mandatory implementation under the Environment Act.

His work involves acting for a wide variety of clients within the public and private sectors. David is experienced in dealing with all aspects of town and country planning matters, including planning applications, section 106 agreements, appeals and enforcement action. David also advises on compulsory purchase and appropriation, working closely with our highly regarded compulsory purchase compensation team.





**Rob Stoneman** Director of Landscape Recovery, The Wildlife Trusts

Rob Stoneman is director of landscape recovery for The Wildlife Trusts, driving the strategic development and delivery of large-scale landscape recovery; species reintroduction; land management; green finance initiatives for nature based solutions to tackle the nature and climate crises by absorbing emissions, reducing risks such as flooding, underpinning sustainable farming, as well as engaging people with wildlife.

Previously regional director for Rewilding Europe and former CEO of Yorkshire, Hampshire & Isle of Wight and Sheffield Wildlife Trusts. Rob pioneered peatland restoration with the Scottish Wildlife Trust early in his career following on from his PhD on peatlands and climate change. He is a board member of the International Mires Conservation Group advocating for peatland conservation and research across the globe.

At Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Rob set up the IUCN-UK Peatland Programme (hosting and chairing the programme for many years) as well as the Yorkshire Peat Partnership – one of the largest peat restoration schemes in Europe.

## Alex Watts

Associate, Rural Property Management and Consultancy, Fisher German

Alex Watts is an associate working for property consultants Fisher German. Over the last three years, she has specialised in advising on the emerging natural capital markets, and, in particular, biodiversity net gain (BNG). She is currently working on behalf of a number of clients on varying matters arising from the BNG legislation, helping landowners to explore habitat banking models, as well as assisting development clients to work through delivery of their BNG needs on sites.