



SEC Newgate in the North

Communications and
engagement specialists
based in Manchester

secnewgate.co.uk

INTRODUCTION

SEC Newgate is an award-winning corporate affairs and crisis communications consultancy - providing research-driven strategic communications to its clients with a Manchester-based team serving the North.

We are proud to work on behalf of organisations leading transformational change, including developers of new homes, renewable energy projects, major infrastructure and more.

WHAT WE DO

Community Relations | Planning Communications | Public Affairs

Helping projects engage with local communities, politicians, and stakeholders.

Our team of communications experts work across the lifetime of a project, supporting clients from site selection through to planning, consultation, construction and operation.

Public Relations | Reputation Management | Content Strategy

For brands, organisations, and individuals looking to shape a clear, confident corporate narrative.

- Media relations
- Content creation: thought leadership, film, photography
- Crisis response
- Digital campaigns

Design & Branding

With extensive experience supporting large scale infrastructure and property clients as well as brand development for start-ups our in-house creative team that can help bring your story to life and set you apart.

Research & Insight

SEC Newgate's in-house research specialists gather the insight you need to make your communications clear, focused and effective.



OUR TEAM IN THE NORTH

While our team in the North brings local insight and on-the-ground knowledge, we're backed by a UK-wide network of 130 communications professionals. Meaning clients benefit from the local understanding you'd expect from a regional agency, but also the scale, reach, and round-the-clock support of one of the UK's top 30 PR firms (PRWeek 2025).



SIMON DONOHUE
Head of SEC Newgate North

Head of SEC Newgate's Northern office in Manchester, Simon is a strategic communications expert and former journalist with deep public and private sector experience.

He joined from Transport for Greater Manchester and previously worked at Marketing Manchester. Simon spent 15 years at the Manchester Evening News, covering business and features.



IAN MORRIS
Director, Communications

Ian helps organisations build and protect their reputations through clear, strategic communications.

With 18+ years' experience, he's advised UK and global brands across sectors including transport, infrastructure, renewables, and hospitality.

A specialist in crisis communications, he supports clients in managing risk and responding to reputational challenges.

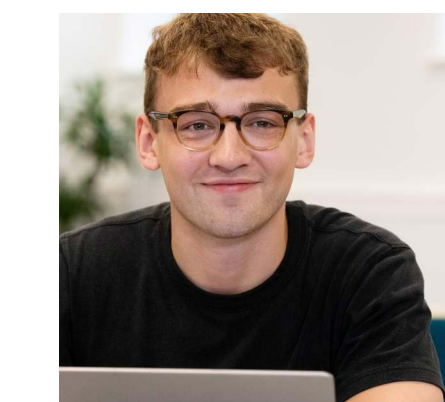


GEORGE THOMAS
Senior Account Manager

George joined from Liverpool-based housing association Torus, where he led public affairs and community engagement.

He previously worked for a Labour MP in North Wales, building strong political and local networks.

George now advises clients like Vistry and Cadent on consumer, business, and stakeholder engagement across the region.



WILL NEALE
Senior Consultant

Will leads local planning and advocacy campaigns, working with communities and stakeholders to help secure consent.

He runs Community Liaison Groups in the residential and logistics sectors, keeping dialogue open between developers and locals.

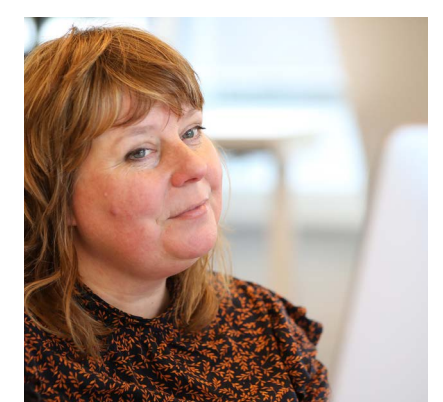
A skilled digital communicator, he also delivers creative content and campaigns across client accounts.



DAVID HOPPS
Consultant

David brings strong experience in public affairs and communications, supporting clients across the North and Midlands with stakeholder engagement and political consultation.

A former Trafford councillor, he held the housing and strategic planning portfolio and sat on the planning and TfGM committees, combining regional insight with a focus on transport and infrastructure.



GINA MURRAY
Senior Designer

Gina is a design expert with experience across all creative disciplines. She helps clients bring brand concepts to life through digital and print campaigns, creating everything from brand guidelines to ads, brochures, and banners that engage the public and reflect client values.

CASE STUDIES

VISTRY GROUP, NATIONWIDE

Public Relations | Reputation Management | Content Strategy

We manage corporate communications for Vistry Partnerships, supporting national and regional teams including its northern business units.

Our work includes media relations, award entries, stakeholder events, and PR strategies that position Vistry as the UK's leading mixed-tenure developer.

In the North, we've delivered engagement plans, exclusive press coverage and crisis support.

EDF POWER SOLUTIONS UK, NATIONWIDE

Infrastructure Communications | Community Engagement | Planning Support

We support EDF power solutions UK across a range of major energy projects - including both Development Consent Order (DCO) and Town and Country Planning (TCP) schemes.

This includes public and stakeholder engagement for nationally significant infrastructure such as Springwell solar farm.

PARKSIDE REGENERATION, ST HELENS

Community Relations | Planning Communications | Public Affairs

Appointed to support consent for a major employment site on the former Parkside Colliery, we delivered targeted stakeholder and political engagement to help secure Secretary of State approval.

Our approach resulted in strong endorsements, positive media, and successful planning outcomes.

CERT PROPERTY, GREATER MANCHESTER

Community Engagement | Public Consultation | Stakeholder Relations

We support CERT with community and stakeholder engagement across multiple residential developments in Greater Manchester, helping to facilitate the delivery of hundreds of new homes.

Through tailored consultation strategies, local liaison and proactive relationship-building with councillors, residents and community groups, we help shape proposals that reflect local priorities.

EREN HOLDING, SHOTTON MILL

Public Affairs | Strategic Communications | Event Management

SEC Newgate successfully delivered the high-profile launch of Eren Holding's £600m redevelopment of Shotton Mill - the largest single foreign investment into Wales. We mobilised a dedicated team to manage stakeholder engagement, ministerial protocols, media relations and all event logistics.

Working closely with both the UK and Welsh Governments, we ensured aligned messaging and a seamless on-site experience for over 200 attendees, including two UK Secretaries of State and two Welsh Cabinet Secretaries.

NATPOWER UK, TEESSIDE GIGAPARK

Community Relations | Planning Communications | Public Affairs | Design

We delivered pre-application engagement and a public consultation for a 1GW battery storage scheme in Redcar. Our team handled everything from stakeholder briefings to a public exhibition, with all creative materials produced in-house.

The scheme gained media support and was well received by the local community.

**BEST PLACES
TO WORK
2023/2024/2025**


THE SUNDAY TIMES

**ADVISOR OF
THE YEAR**

THE VARIETY PROPS
AWARDS 2025

**PODCAST/AUDIO
CAMPAIGN OF
THE YEAR**

CONTENT & PR UK
AWARDS 2025

**BEST AGENCY
CORPORATE AND CITY**

PRWEEK CORPORATE
AFFAIRS AWARDS 2025
SHORTLISTED

**COMMUNICATIONS
AGENCY OF
THE YEAR**

UK GREEN BUSINESS
AWARDS 2025
SHORTLISTED

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS
CONSULTANCY
OF THE YEAR**

PROVOKE MEDIA
EMEA AWARDS 2024

**BEST CAMPAIGN
REAL ESTATE &
CONSTRUCTION**

PROVOKE SABRE EMEA
AWARDS 2024
SHORTLISTED

**CONSULTANCY
CAMPAIGN OF
THE YEAR**

PRCA PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AWARDS 2024
SHORTLISTED

**COMMUNICATIONS
AGENCY OF
THE YEAR**

EDIE NET-ZERO
AWARDS 2023

Get in touch:
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With headquarters in London and regional offices across the UK - including Bristol, Cardiff, Birmingham and Manchester - SEC Newgate can provide the local insight our clients need and the resource to deliver.

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 **SECNewgate**
Insight. Communications. Advocacy.