

Hugh Morgan Williams, Chairman, The Northern Way



A committed European with wide media, manufacturing and service sector business interests, Hugh is a national figure in a diverse range of business-led organisations

He is currently Chairman of Canford Group plc a company he co-founded in 1978. Based in the north-east of England with European subsidiaries, Canford specialises in supplying professional audio, video and broadcast products.

Hugh was appointed Chairman of the Northern way in 2009 (Nick to confirm) which is a unique initiative by One North East, bringing together the cities and regions of the North of England to work together to improve the sustainable economic development of the North towards the level of more prosperous regions. Hugh is also Chairman of the SME committee of Business Europe.

Hugh is currently Chairman of the North East Regional investment funds addressing the SME gap funding and Chairman of Capital North East, a regional venture capital fund. He has been a CBI regional spokesman since 1995. He is a former Regional CBI Chairman and has served as Chairman of the CBI National SME Council with additional responsibility for European relations, and as CBI national spokesman on regional and economic issues. He was a Board member of One North East from 1988-2001 and chaired its audit committee. He has also been a member of the North East Industrial Development Board.

In June 2008 he was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to business in the North East.

