

Roberta Blackman Woods MP, Deputy Regional Minister for the North East



Roberta Blackman-Woods MP is proud and privileged to represent her home City in Parliament. Before being elected as the Labour Member of Parliament for the City of Durham in 2005 she was a university professor in social policy and had previously served as a local councillor. Roberta's interests in Parliament are housing, planning, international development, foreign affairs and regeneration. She chairs the Associate Parliamentary Group for Afghanistan and the All-Party Balanced and Sustainable Communities Group. In Durham she works with local people to highlight the importance of planning and housing policies to the City, with the new unitary council to sensitively regenerate the City Centre and surrounding villages, and with the local NHS trust for the best health services for the area.

Brian Aitken, Editor, The Journal Newspaper



A talented and intuitive journalist with 30 years experience, 14 at a senior level. A modern-thinking editor with a track record of working successfully with commercial departments, keeping to budget and achieving circulation success.

A great team player who can help formulate strategies and then make them become reality. Valuable experience of working at group level, bringing industry best practice to Trinity Mirror, helping to achieve newsroom efficiencies and assisting with various re-launches and re-designs.

Displays quiet authority, common sense and pragmatism and has the ability to get on with people from every sector of society. This results in effective and inspirational leadership in the newsroom and a good ambassadorial profile outside it, forging relationships with the public and private sector alike.

