**Dame Ann Geraldine Limb DBE FRSA FCGI DL**

Trinity House, 3 Willow Lane, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK11 1FG.

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* highly experienced chair, non-executive director specialising in corporate and board governance, strategy, systems transformation, performance management and culture change in the private, public, and policy/governmental arenas.
* broad business-based Chair and NED, with FTSE plc and SME experience, skilled in working at interface of the private, public, and government sectors - with specialist experience in health, security, technology, digital media, manufacturing, and environmental regulation,
* government (Ministerial) appointee/adviser to national and regional public bodies in housing & regeneration, health, national security, consumer affairs, culture, education & skills
* former successful CEO with very senior leadership experience of large and complex organisations across private public and charity sectors

**Full Time professional and executive career history**

2005-2010 Vice President Citizen Service Transformation [www.cstransform.com](http://www.cstransform.com)

2000-2005 CEO Ufi Ltd Senior Civil Service band 3), [www.learndirect.co.uk](http://www.learndirect.co.uk)

1996-2000 Principal & Chief Executive, Cambridge Regional College

1988-1996 Principal & Chief Executive, Milton Keynes College

1986-1988 Vice-Principal, Milton Keynes College

1984-1986 Head Management & Business Studies, NE Derbyshire College

1980-1984 Senior Lecturer Deputy Head of Business Studies, High Peak College

1978-1980 Teacher and Lecturer, Abraham Moss Centre, Manchester

1977-1978 Teacher and Lecturer, St. John’s College, Manchester

**Achievements in private and public sectors**

* created an innovative and thriving global e-services consultancy service that facilitated knowledge transfer of innovative UK government practices internationally.
* served for 9 years on the main board of a plc, sitting on Audit Committee and chairing Remuneration and Ethics Committees,
* co-founded and ran two SME digital companies, taking one to acquisition by leading FTSE 100 company.
* successfully transformed results and reputation of two FE Colleges through programmes of performance focused culture change, during the first decade of FE incorporation
* led the implementation across England Wales and Northern Ireland of £350m pa national digital e-learning programme (learndirect) exceeding government targets on numbers of learners involved (£2m), online learning centres established (6000) and corporate e-learning clients engaged - creating the conditions for sale to private sector.
* created from scratch a new and successful Local Enterprise Partnership (SE Midlands) and led its integration with a neighbouring LEP (Northamptonshire) to become the first LEP, and 5th largest, in country to rationalise unnecessary overlap, cut operating costs and reduce financial burden on public purse; SEMLEP was judged by government in 2019 ‘exceptional’ in all areas and acknowledged as the country’s top performing LEP.
* successfully chaired two major urban regeneration projects Northampton & Luton Enterprise Zones – creating significant numbers of jobs, homes, and inward investments
* worked closely with Mayor of Doncaster as Chair the Doncaster Independent Commission on Education & Skills 2016 and published report ‘ONE DONCASTER’

**Achievements in voluntary and charitable sector**

* founded an education and social mobility charity, that has supported 3000 students to go to university from FE colleges and celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2023.
* elected Chair of The Scout Association, the largest coeducational youth charity in the UK, and first woman in its 110-year history to hold this role.
* elected Chair the City & Guilds of London Institute, a global skills development charity and first woman in its 140-year history to take on this role.

**Current Charity and Voluntary Appointments**

2023 Chair Lifelong Education Institute <https://www.lifelongeducation.uk>

2023 Pro Chancellor University of Surrey <https://www.surrey.ac.uk>

2023 Chair the Manchester College <https://www.tmc.ac.uk>

2022 Chair Lloyds Bank Foundation <https://www.lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk>

2021 Chair City& Guilds of London Institute <https://www.cityandguildsgroup.com>

2021 Deputy Chair the King’s Foundation <https://princes-foundation.org>

2010 Chair IF Milton Keynes International Festival [www.ifmiltonkeynes.org](http://www.ifmiltonkeynes.org)

1998 Founder & Vice President Helena Kennedy Foundation [www.hkf.org.uk](http://www.hkf.org.uk)

**Education qualifications honours and awards**

2022 Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) for services to

young people and philanthropy Jubilee Honours

2022 PhD (Hon) University of Northampton

2021 Fellow Society of Leadership St George’s House Trust, Windsor Castle

2020 Women Leaders Awards Winner Exceptional Leadership and Impact

2019 OUTstanding 2019 List named as #1 LGBT+ Public Sector Executive

2019 Northern Power Women List named in Top 50 women.

2019 Fellow Chartered Intuition for Further Education FCFE

2019 DLitt (Hon) Sheffield Hallam University

2016 Lifetime Achievement Award Milton Keynes Business Leaders

2016 D. Univ (Hon) Open University

2015 Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for public and political

service Queen’s Birthday Honours

2014 DBA Doctorate Business Administration (Hon) University of Bedfordshire

2013 Mary Lou Carrington Award Company of Educators [www.co-educators.com](http://www.co-educators.com)

2011 Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for public service

and services to education Queen’s Birthday Honours

2011 DBA Doctorate Business (Hon) Manchester Metropolitan University

2010 Commission HM The Queen to serve as Deputy Lieutenant Buckinghamshire

2006 Professor in Educational Leadership (Hon), University of West London

2004 Careers Research & Advisory Centre 40th Anniversary Medal award

2003 PhD (Hon) Anglia Ruskin University

2002 Fellow of City & Guilds of London Institute FCGI

1998 Fellow Royal Society of Arts FRSA

1996 Fellow Lucy Cavendish College Cambridge, [www.lucy-cav.cam.ac.uk](http://www.lucy-cav.cam.ac.uk)

1996 Diploma in Psychodynamic Counselling & Psychotherapy, WPF London

1992 Accredited Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) practitioner, OPP

1983 Diploma in Education Management, Sheffield Hallam University

1982 Postgraduate Certificate in Education, Nottingham Trent University

1978 Diploma in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (Distinction), RSA

1976 MA, Applied Linguistics Final Diploma Institute of Linguists (Distinction)

1975 BA (Hons), French, 2:1, University of Liverpool

1971 4 ‘A’ levels, 1 ‘S’ level, 10 ‘O’ levels, Marple Hall Girls’ Grammar School

**Publications**

2018 Union Learning: public money employer engagement & current practice NEU PSGB

2017 What if FE Colleges led a ‘city of learning’ movement FETL Possibility Thinking

2012 Featured in Diversity: How Diverse Leadership is Better for Business (Mazars LLP)

2008 Profiled in *Women in Leadership: five roots to success* by Tina Kothari (Amazon)

2005 Profiled in *50 Lessons from Exceptional Business Leaders* [www.skillsoft.com](http://www.skillsoft.com)

2005 Author *Leading Learning* (LSDA) London

2001 Co-Author *Taking Education Really* Seriously (Routledge)

2000 Author *Not in front of the children: the leader as parent* (FEDA Research Journal)

1999 *Further Education under New Labour* (Cambridge Journal of Educational Studies)

1994 *Changing Organisational Cultures* (Further Education Staff College)

1993 *Preparing for Incorporation* (Further Education Staff College)

1991 *Managing Colleges in the 21st Century* (Further Education Staff College)

1985 *Objectifs*: Assignments in practical Language Skills (Cambridge University Press)

1982 Introducing *PET*: The Cambridge Preliminary English Test (Cassell)

**Philanthropy**

* In 1998 funded the establishment of the Helena Kennedy Foundation – a national education and social mobility charity for the Further Education sector.
* In 2020 funded the Limb Family Foyer in Milton Keynes Gallery – a £50K new extension to enable increased physical access.
* In 2021 established the Limb Family Endowment Fund of £50K at The Stables Laine Dankworth Centre to engage the widest range of people in music and the arts, giving access to the young, disabled, and people from economically and socially deprived backgrounds.
* In 2021 funded the £40K renovation of the Woburn Sands (Hogstye End) Quaker Burial Ground, which features a unique hand cut standing stone in Cumbrian slate designed and cut by Lida Lopes Cardozo-Kindersley
* In 2024, set up The Harmony Fund of £25K to take forward the work of The King’s Foundation in Buckinghamshire. The fund supports activities that provide holistic solutions to challenges facing the world, providing resources to local community and educational projects that put into practice HM The King’s philosophy of harmony.

**National media experience**

Numerous national radio and television interviews including BBC3CR featured on ‘People’s Play’ List May 2019, BBC Radio 4 ‘Woman’s Hour’ Oct 2016, ‘Great Lives’ May 2018, BBC Radio 4, Today, PM and World at One BBC Radio 2 Student Choice; and Channel 5, BBC 2 University Challenge December 2023 BBC1 series 'Going Back: Giving Back broadcast October 2016, ITV documentary on computer skills, BBC Television documentary on Open University and Adult Education, BBC Television documentary on Higher Education.

**Patronages**

Patron Bletchley Park [www.bletchleypark.org.uk](http://www.bletchleypark.org.uk) home of WW2 code breakers

Patron Works for Us [www.worksforus.org.uk](http://www.worksforus.org.uk) a charity that improves employment prospects through advice, guidance & training.

Patron Educational Wealth Fund: a charity building the UK's first national endowment <https://www.educationalwealthfund.org>

Patron Bethesda Network, a social enterprise empowering leaders, entrepreneurship, and social mobility <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bethesda-network-2211021bb/?originalSubdomain=uk>

Vice Patron Response: a charity providing support and accommodation to adults with mental health problems in Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire <https://www.response.org.uk>

Vice Patron Oasis Partnership, a Buckinghamshire charity providing structured therapeutic interventions and support for drug and alcohol users <https://oasispartnership.org>

Vice Patron RAW Workshop a social business producing high quality wood furniture, wood recycling and rounds maintenance services <https://www.raw-workshop.co.uk>

Founding Vice President Helena Kennedy Foundation an educational social mobility charity [www.hkf.org.uk](http://www.hkf.org.uk)

**Personal interests** includespending time with my wife, friends, family, niece, nephew and godchildren, music, theatre, walking, skiing, bird watching, being in nature and all matters spiritual including Quakers (member of the Religious Society of Friends)

**Ann Limb July 2024**

**Previous Government Ministerial and Public Sector Non-Executive Appointments**

2017-23 Chair UK Innovation Corridor

2014-21 Member Arts Council England South East Council DCMS

2011-19 Chair South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership SEMLEP

2010-18 Chair Destination Milton Keynes official tourism for Milton Keynes

2013-18 Chair MK Events Board ER2015 rugby world cup in Milton Keynes

Chair MK European Capital of Culture 2023 bid

2011-17 Board member Homes England

2015-17 Chair Further Education Funding Reform & Localism Steering Group SFA/DfE

2014-16 Public Services Transformation Challenge Panel Her Majesty Treasury

2008-11 Department of Health (DoH) Non-Executive Director Milton Keynes Hospital

NHS Foundation Trust

2008-11 Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) HMGCC Non-Executive Director

HMG Communications Centre

2008-10 Chair Milton Keynes England 2018 FIFA World Cup Bid

2005-10 Department of Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) Chair Legal Deposit Panel

2005-11 Department of Communities & Local Government (DCLG) Homes England: Chair Milton Keynes Partnership

2004-07 Prime Minister’s Digital Inclusion Panel: member

2001-03 Ministerial Task Force on ‘Feminising IT’: member

2001-03 Department for Education and Skills (DfES): Board Member Adult Learning

Inspectorate and Cambridgeshire Learning and Skills Council

1999-01 DfES Board Member University for Industry and Chair of Quality Committee

1997-01 DfES Non-Executive Director Training Standards Council

1997-01 Department of Health (DH) Non-Executive Director Cambridge University Hospitals: Chair of Audit; Vice

Chair Clinical Governance Committees

1989-92 Department of Trade & Industry (DTI) Electricity Consumer’s Council

**Previous Private Sector Directorships**

2021-23 Member Business Advisory & Intelligence Group (BAIG), DevClever plc

2009-17 Chair Briteyellow [www.briteyellow.com](http://www.briteyellow.com/) high-speed wireless communications services

2010 -17 NED Skills2Learn acquired by Babcock International e learning, virtual reality, & creative multimedia solutions

2003-12 NED DRS Data & Research Services plc, design and manufacturing company specializing in data capture.

2005-10 NED Entrepreneurs in Action financial skills for young people

2005-07 Chair Cholerton-Shand youth engagement consultancy

1996-01 NED Eastern Counties Radio Ltd (part of DMGT), commercial radio company

**Previous Educational Voluntary & Community Appointments**

2015-21 Chair the Scout Association UK [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

2017-19 Chair Milton Keynes Education Trust - a Multi Academy Trust [www.mket.org.uk](http://www.mket.org.uk)

2009-15 Chair E-ACT [www.e-act.org.uk](http://www.e-act.org.uk) a large multi academy trust

2009-13 Chair Higher Education Board UCMK Milton Keynes

2006-11 Chair Anne Frank Trust UK

2007-11 Chair Milton Keynes Arts for Health

2007-09 Board member NUS Improvement Board

2006-08 Board, Centre for Excellence in Leadership

2007-08 Trustee Volunteering England

2002-08 Member of Council, the Open University

2005-07 Chair Student Volunteering England

2004-06 Adviser to Department for Education & Skills and Trades Union Congress

2002-06 Chair, British Council Knowledge & Information Advisory Board

2003-06 Member of Council, the University of Surrey

2003-08 Centre for Excellence in Leadership: Visiting Lecturer & Leadership Coach

2001-07 Patron LASER Foundation

2001-11 Chair fbfe: The National Council of Faiths & Beliefs in Further Education

1999-01 Chair of Board, Maggie’s Cancer Care Centre, Cambridge

1998-10 Chair of Trustees, National Extension College, Cambridge

1997-01 Associate Consultant, Lifespan NHS Community Trust

1994-96 Board of Trustees, Willen Hospice, Milton Keynes

1992-96 Board of Trustees, Milton Keynes Counselling Foundation

1990-93 Management Committee Citizens’ Advice Bureau, Milton Keynes

1989-93 Management Committee, MK Council of Voluntary Organizations