

**Shirley Atkinson**

**Vice-Chancellor  
University of Sunderland**



As Vice-Chancellor, Shirley Atkinson has responsibility for the executive management and oversight of the University, including preparation and delivery of its Strategic Plan.

She is currently a board member of the City of Sunderland College, a founding trustee and Director of the South West Durham University Technical College, a member of Universities UK International Policy Advisory Group, and Innovation and Growth Policy Network, a Director of the Sunderland Business Group, a member of the City of Sunderland Economic Leadership Board and Chair of the Education Leadership Board, and a Director of five university trading companies including the London Campus operation and companies in Malaysia and Hong Kong. Shirley is also an Executive Board member of Million Plus and a member of the Social Mobility Working Group (led by Universities UK), and a Board member of Universities and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA).

Before joining the University sector in 2008, Shirley worked in public, commercial and not for profit organisations at Board and Executive level.

She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (qualifying with honours in 1989), for whom she has delivered over 200 lectures, chaired a number of conferences, and previously held a position on their examinations board. She also holds an MSc in Finance, is an alumnus of Harvard Business Schools’ Global Leaders Programme and is a Fellow of the RSA.