

Curriculum vitae with track record (for researchers)

Personal information

First name, Surname:	Megan Palmer-Abbs		
Date of birth:	09121969	Sex:	F
Nationality:	Dual: Irish & British		
Researcher unique identifier(s) (ORCID, Researcher ID, etc.):	https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0198-6871		
URL for personal website:	Dr Megan Palmer-Abbs - Senior Researcher - Nordlandsforskning AS - Nordland Research Institute LinkedIn		

Education

Year	Faculty/department - University/institution - Country
2018	Ph.D. (Geography): University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Dept of Geography and Environment. Title: Impact of next generation broadband on rural small and micro business in the north east of Scotland. <i>Exploratory study of technology innovation and the contentions in overcoming the digital divide for marginalised groups.</i>
2005	BSc (Open): The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK. Sustainable Development and the history of technology innovation.
2004	Diploma (Open): The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK. International Environmental Policy.

Positions - current and previous

(Academic sector/research institutes/industrial sector/public sector/other)

Year	Job title – Employer - Country
2020 - present	Senior Research Fellow: Nordland Research Institute, Bodø, Norway
2018-2020	Research Fellow: The Innovation School, Glasgow School of Art, Scotland, UK
2013-2018	University of Aberdeen (UK): industry sponsored PGR & Lead lecturer (Business School)
2007 -2020	Co-founder, Director & Senior Consultant: EBBA Consultants Ltd (UK)
1997-2007	Part time / bank work: Various entities across the UK: various part time and full-time short-term occupations in Strategic & Operational Management (Environmental stewardship & Human Resources) and Education (Special needs adult & kindergarten).
1990 -1997	Education Officer (Education & Social Work Depts): Grampian Regional Council (Scotland):

Career breaks

Year	Reason
1996 - 2005	Various interval breaks in between maternity leave, studying and moving with husbands bi annual work relocation package, whilst studying for BSc and raising young family.

Project management experience

(Academic sector/research institutes/industrial sector/public sector/other. Please list the most relevant.)

Year	Project owner - Project - Role - Funder
2020-2022	<p>NRI: EU applications: Co led and won EU application EmpowerUs for a 6M€ co production transdisciplinary project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCN applications: Co led several successful applications and now co leading on the SHIFTPLASTICS project (150 000 NOK).
2019-2020	<p>Project Management & co production: SHIFTPLASTICS, Cityloops, Tallwood, DigiTeRRI - Multiple projects for NRI (project and WP lead) – RCN & EU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DHI: SCOTCAP: The Scottish Capsule Programme (SCOTCAP) is regarded as an integral part of the national redesign of outpatient gastroenterology services using design innovation thinking & academic R &D to support service transformation. Lead author & design researcher fellow on service model evaluation. Funder: Partnership - Scottish Government, regional health services & industry
2007-2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EBBA Consultants Ltd: Director & Lead Consultant of a Business & Sustainable Construction Consultancy: Secured consultancy budgets of up to £47K for project values exceeding £48M, in excess of 25 complex long-term collaborative projects (public, private & NGOs). Sustainability lead on all projects with various public private sector owners.
2007-2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moray College (UHU): Senior advisor and strategic leader in campus redevelopment: Phase 1: funding, design, procurement & delivery of award-winning Life Sciences Innovation Research Centre (£6.5M). Funder: Partnership - Scottish Government, Health Service & Regional Enterprise
2013-2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Aberdeen: PhD Impact of generation broadband on rural small and micro businesses in the north east of Scotland Funder:

Supervision of students

Master's students	Ph.D. students	University/institution - Country
Masters		<p>Glasgow School of Art (UK) Winter School <i>Programme Development member (circa 180 students) & Lead lecturer for Sustainable Futures course (110 students)</i></p>
Masters		<p>University of Aberdeen (UK)– Business School (<i>up to 63 students</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Business Management Innovation (BMI) Module: Co-coordinator & team member</i> <i>New Product & Service Model (NPS) Module: Course Lead</i>

Other relevant professional experiences

Year	Description - Role
2020-2025	<p><i>SHIFTPLASTICS (RCN) – Co coordinator & WP lead (co production of new sustainable circular economic value chains for plastics in the fisheries and aquaculture industries)</i></p> <p><i>DigiTeRRI (EU) – WP support on co production of digital futures for regional development</i></p> <p><i>Tallwood (Interreg project)– NRI project WP subject lead & research team member</i></p> <p><i>Cityloops (Interreg project) – NRI project WP subject lead & research team member</i></p>

2019-present	<i>Reviewer for the Journal of Local Economy</i>
2011-present	<i>Professional full member Institute for Economic Development (MIED)</i>
2014-present	<i>Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) (FRGS)</i>
2015-present	<i>Secretary and Member of the (RGS) Rural Geographers Research Group (RGRG)</i>
2016-present	<i>Co-founder, committee member (RGS) Digital Geographers Research Group (DGRG)</i>
2010-2018	<i>Building Research Establishment Environmental Methodology [BREEAM] 'Accredited Professional' for Sustainable Construction audit systems.</i> Board Member - Regional Strategic Planning Partnership (statutory position)
2013-2016	A strong advocate of education and sustainable community development, I sat on the Regional Development Board (3 years) driving strong governance, collaboration, strengthening stakeholder relationship capacities (both professionals and communities). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founding member and deeply involved with establishment of Regional Sustainable Economic Development Plan (Single Outcome Agreement), negotiations with Scottish Government and Audit Scotland (budget £430.8M; circa 10,000 FTE). • Worked diligently at executive level with councillors, council officials and government executives, NGO's and other public agencies. Board Member: Moray College - University of Highlands and Islands (statutory position):
2007-2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance responsibilities of College in all aspects; senior member of Staff, Audit, and Estates Committees, Student Liaison Board Member; responsible for strategic leadership and governance of organisation (circa 260 FTEs; circa 9, 000 students) (annual budget 12.1M). • Outputs include the formation of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI), College Development Business Case, re-evaluation of tertiary education for the 21st century teaching. • Board Mentor & Stem Ambassador (undergraduate Board Member & Secondary Schools). Education Officer (Education & Social Work Depts): Grampian Regional Council (Scotland): Full responsibilities for designing, delivering and assessing education (early years and special needs adults)
1990-1997	

Track record

The total *number* of publications during my career (academic **circa 17**; non-academic **+ 100**).

Ten peer reviewed publications & conference papers (national & international)

1. Palmer-Abbs, M, C Cotterill & Farrington, J 2021. Technology Innovation & Societal Change: The Digital Lottery: The Impact of Next Generation Broadband on Rural Small and Micro Businesses in the North East of Scotland. Journal of Rural Studies, Volume 81
2. Palmer-Abbs, M, Bradley, J, Green, C & Brogan, M. 2020. SCOTCAP: Co produced Innovative Service Model Design for a Video Colonoscopy Service. (online). [SCOTCAP Service Model Evaluation - RADAR \(gsa.ac.uk\)](https://gsa.ac.uk/scotcap-service-model-evaluation-radar)
3. Palmer-Abbs, M; Halfacree, K & Heley, J. 2019. Rural Resilience and Resourcefulness in a Digital Age: RGS Rural Geographers Research Group; Innovation Café - Short Paper <http://rgrg.co.uk/rural-geography-research-group-2019-rural-resilience-and-resourcefulness-innovation-cafe-session-short-paper?preview=true>
4. *Conference paper*: ESRS 2019: Rural digital access, Smart rural futures: new technologies and digitisation in rural regions <https://esrs2019.no/workgroup/wg-2-smart-rural-futures-new-technologies-and-digitisation-in-rural-regions/megan-palmer-butterflies-chameleons-digital-connectivity-innovation-and-rural-businesses/>

5. *Palmer-Abbs. M, 2017. PhD The Digital Lottery: The Impact of Next Generation Broadband on Rural Small and Micro Businesses in the North East of Scotland. Aberdeen: University of Aberdeen.*
6. *European Socio Rurales Society International Conference: Trondheim, Norway (June 2019): Smart Rural Futures: New Technologies and Digitisation in Rural Regions: Digital connectivity, Innovation and Rural Businesses: Speaker Dr Megan Palmer-Abbs (Chair Dr Leanne Townsend).*
7. *Royal Geographical Society: Cardiff, 'The Digital Lottery: Business Stories: Rural Digital Advancement or Regression', 2018, Convener & Presenter Dr Megan Palmer-Abbs (Chair Dr Matt Reed: CCRI).*
8. *Royal Geographical Society: London, Rural Geographers 'The Digital Lottery' New Rural Digital Classifications' 2017 Convener & Presenter, Megan Palmer-Abbs (Chair Dr Keith Halfacree, University of Swansea).*
9. *14th Rural Entrepreneurship International Conference, University of Lincoln: 'Innovation and digital equity in rural businesses: Necessity is the mother of all invention (Mater artium necessitas)', June 2016 Speaker, Megan Palmer-Abbs (Chair Prof. Ted Fuller).*
10. *Tommy Flowers Institute Conference (industry collaboration): Adastral Park, BT HQ, Malksham, Suffolk, 2016: Future Research Visions, Technology Innovation and Business Change, Speaker, Megan Palmer-Abbs (Chair Fraser Burton, Head of BT Research).*

Other applicable outputs:

Peer reviewed consultancy reports (overview)

2007-2020

Director & Senior Consultant and Sustainability lead; production of many reports (sustainable construction accreditation reports, design and management reports) for major and small innovation projects (**over 100**). Projects were regional and nation (UK) working with a wide range of stakeholders (public, private & third sector) on complex projects.

Major dissemination of knowledge, expertise & outreach

- **RGRG Secretary, website designer, manager and information dissemination** for rural geography (international remit). Multiple media outputs including blogs, twitter & news reports.
- Convened and chaired **International Conference session and innovation workshops** on topical issues for rural and peripheral regions.
- See also **regional community & HEI activities** imparting innovation, development and research insights to support community and industry innovation and development (strategic meetings, regional – national development plans, synergise with HEI strategic and operational objectives).
- Develop and deliver **Continual Professional Development (CPD)** training for public & private organisations in their transitions to Sustainable Development.
- Palmer-Abbs. M, 2018. **Participant Feedback: Executive Summary:** The Digital Lottery: The Impact of Next Generation Broadband on Rural Small and Micro Businesses in the North-East of Scotland, Aberdeen: University of Aberdeen.

Other relevant professional experiences: Awards and achievements:

- **Scottish Knowledge Exchange Awards – Winners** Multiparty Collaboration 2021 – SCOTCAP project
- **(Scottish) Holyrood Connect** Digital Health and Care Scotland Awards 2021 **Winner:** Scottish Industry Collaboration Award of the Year 2021: SCOTCAP project.
- **Royal Geographical Society International Conference (2021):** Rural Geographers Research Group **Conference session co ordinator & session chair:** Peripheral Regions and the Big Challenges for the 21st Century
- **Speaker: Scottish Rural Parliament Conference (2021):** Rural digitalisation & digital accessibility.
- **Industry awarded** EPSRC & BT Industry sponsorship for PhD.
- **UK's most sustainable** Higher Education new building (Centre for Energy and Environment, Thurso).
- **International Award-winning** Secondary Education buildings (Wick Community Campus).
- **Scotland's most sustainable social housing** development (West Heather Road, Inverness).