

JOHN SHEERMAN

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I am a climate policy and campaigns specialist with a single-minded desire to enact change on the urgent environmental issues we face. As a climate campaigner and speechwriter, I have worked across sectors from grassroots activism, in Westminster, and the business sector building campaigns, coalitions, and events, amplifying the need for rapid decarbonisation. Most recently, working as a speechwriter for a high-profile climate campaigner in the business sector has broadened my understanding of ESG, transition economics, finance, the boardroom, and the limitations of CSR.

Prior to my MA in International Relations and Climate Change I worked for over a decade in radio, film, and tv as a writer and creative, developing skills which have proved invaluable as I transitioned to climate change communications. My experience thus far has helped to develop my leadership and facilitation skills and honed my innately collaborative outlook and work ethic.

EXPERIENCE

SEPTEMBER 2023 – PRESENT

SPEECHWRITER, NET POSITIVE

Speechwriter, preparing speeches, keynotes, firesides, roundtables on climate change, biodiversity loss, inequality, advocating for more ambitious action from the business sector. Platforms include UNGC, COP28, Global Fashion Summit, One Young World and many more.

APRIL 2023 – APRIL 2024

PARLIAMENTARY CAMPAIGNER, ADFREE CITIES

Climate and advertising campaigner, developing relationships in Westminster, organizing parliamentary events, pushing for 'tobacco style' bans on high carbon advertising and reclaiming public spaces in our towns and cities.

JAN 2022 – APRIL 2023

FREELANCE WRITER, GLOBAL STRATEGIC COMMS COUNCIL (GSCC)

Researching and writing op-eds, briefing documents and articles for publication on international climate issues, in print and digital media.

JUNE 2022 – APRIL 2023

DIGITAL COMMS ASSISTANT, THE CLIMATE COALITION

Developing campaign language, blogposts, assisting in strategy, supporting comms team.

JAN 2022 – MAY 2023

FREELANCE CREATIVE, THE EDGE PICTURE COMPANY

Developing pitches, briefs, writing scripts for clients across the globe.

JAN 2022 – MAY 2022

COMMUNICATIONS INTERN, GLOBAL ACTION PLAN

Delivering policy research and online copy for various environmental campaigns.

2010 - 2021

WRITER & CREATIVE, ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Writing comedy, drama, factual scripts, sketches, gags for radio, tv, and film including BBC Radio 4, BBC Scotland, The Cartoon Network, The Comedy Unit, Bafta Rocliffe & BBC Worldwide.

EDUCATION

OCTOBER 2021 - SEPTEMBER 2022

MA, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOLDSMITHS

Degrowth, Development, Fossil fuel dependency, Wellbeing economics.
Dissertation focus: Democratic deficits in British politics inhibiting effective climate action.

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2019

COPYWRITING DIPLOMA, UAL CENTRAL ST MARTINS

SEPTEMBER 1998 – JUNE 2001

BSC POLITICS & SOCIAL POLICY (2;2), BRISTOL UNIVERSITY

OCTOBER 1995 – JUNE 1997

A LEVELS, GREENHEAD COLLEGE, HUDDERSFIELD

History (B), Politics (B), French (C)

1990 - 1995

GCSE'S, BRIGHOUSE HIGH SCHOOL, WEST YORKSHIRE

10 GCSE's C or above including maths and English.

SKILLS

- Experience running a team, getting the best out of colleagues in a positive environment.
- Very strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong leadership and people skills.
- A meticulous eye for detail.
- Detail oriented focus on statistics and complex data across sectors.
- Experience with Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Final Draft.

ACTIVITIES

In my spare time, when I have any with two small children, I enjoy history, cinema, comedy, running and creating a better world for my children to grow up in.

REFERENCES

Nicola Round – Adfree Cities – nicola@adfreecities.org.uk – 07788727622

Joseph Confino – Net Positive – joseph@netpositive.world - 07435565040