

Eileen Conn MA (Oxon) FRSA MBE is a long time resident and active citizen of Peckham, in London, UK. She has received several awards for her community work, including an MBE.

Professional background

Eileen is a former Whitehall senior civil servant, where her work focused on the organisation, management and development of government systems. In the 1980s she extended the focus to include business corporate social responsibility through Business in the Community and the Business Network. In the 1990s as an independent policy analyst she established Living Systems Research as an umbrella for her study of *Social Dynamics & Complex Living Systems*, and her work in the field for *Sustainable & Cohesive Communities*. As an RSA Fellow she founded the RSA Living Systems Group in 1994 looking at companies and other human social systems as complex living systems. Eileen is an informal associate in the LSE Complexity Research Programme, and an Associate Fellow of the TSRC (Third Sector Research Centre), based at Birmingham University.

Community engagement

She has had a long-term interest in the dynamics of communities and the emergence of community organisations which interact with the structures of public agencies and commercial companies. This has led to her development of the *social eco-system dance* model of community engagement, and that research continues. In parallel, for almost 40 years, she has been an active citizen in London community organisations. Amongst other current roles, she is co-ordinator and co-founder of Peckham Vision, a networked consortium of residents, artists and business people. Much of the work has focused on developing and studying an integrated systemic approach to planning and managing Peckham town centre as a complex living system. Founded in 2006, Peckham Vision has developed a pioneering neighbourhood information system, with more than 5000 individuals taking part. The group has evolved into a community educator and mobiliser, encouraging and facilitating informed citizen action in Peckham.

Peckham Vision

www.peckhamvision.org

<http://twitter.com/PeckhamVision>

www.facebook.com/PeckhamVision

Community engagement research:

<http://civilsocietyforum.com/insights/insight-from-eileen-conn/>

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/tsrc/research/below-the-radar/community-engagement-and-the-social-ecosystem-dance.aspx>

Publications:

Employment of Women in the Civil Service 1972 – Government report

Information Technology in the Civil Service 1984 in *Management in Government*- article

Holistic Business Framework 1986 - paper

The Ecological Organisation 1991 - paper

Visions of Creation 1995 - book

The Human World seen as Living Systems in *Design and Nature* 2005 – book chapter

Community Engagement in the Social Eco-System Dance 2011 – research paper

GLA review of *Community involvement in Planning in London* 2011 – submission

House of Commons *Inquiry into the Big Society* 2011 - submission

Things are changing all the time in *Codesigning Space* 2013 – book chapter