

Richard A Brown

Richard Brown is the Chief Executive of The Council for Industry and Higher Education (CIHE) - a high level partnership between the Chairs/CEOs of some of the UK's major businesses and a range of university vice-chancellors and college principals. Its mission is to advance all kinds of learning and research through fostering mutual understanding and partnership between higher education and business. It develops a joint agenda on the high level issues that affect our global competitiveness, social cohesion and individual development and commissions research so that policy can be better based on evidence. It influences the Government and its agencies and works with them to effect change. Richard has written and edited numerous policy papers on higher education issues.

Before joining the Council in 1996, Richard held senior management positions in the public and private sectors. In the Government's Department for Trade and Industry (DTI) he headed divisions dealing with the vehicle industry and then EU policy. At Meyer International he helped develop the strategy of this building products group, led the Corporate Planning process, was involved in restructuring the business, and was joint Managing Director of an acquired German subsidiary. At the National Grid Company he was General Manager with responsibilities for corporate planning and new business development. He was the Chief Executive of a predecessor of the South West Regional Development Agency (RDA) at Bristol immediately before joining the CIHE.

Richard is the founding Secretary (Chief Executive) of a Somerset charity that helps preserve the heritage in the village where he lives. He is a Founder Patron and a Trustee of the Gabrieli Consort and Players - a world-class baroque music ensemble – and on the Governing Board of TrinityLaban, the conservatoire for music and dance.

Richard is married to a senior Treasury official and both are noted long distance walkers and runners.