

Under One Roof: Homeless Link's 2025 Summer Conference

Monday 2nd June - Tuesday 3rd June 2025

Programme - Day one

10.30am Opening plenary: The picture of the sector

- Chair: Rick Henderson, CEO, Homeless Link
- Hashi Mohamed, Barrister, broadcaster and author of *People Like Us* and *A Home of One's Own*
- Alicia Walker, Assistant Director of Activism and Advocacy, Shelter
- Charlotte Talbott, CEO, Emmaus UK

11.45am Break

12.05pm Breakout session one – Your choice of the following sessions:

- **The Labour government and homelessness policy: one year in**
Sophie Boobis, Head of Policy and Research, Homeless Link
Cat Tottie, Policy Manager, Homeless Link
Alex Worrell, Policy Manager, Homeless Link
- **Preventing prison discharge to the streets**
Niki Verdenik, Strategic Housing Specialist, Maidstone Borough Council & HM Prison & Probation Service
Anthony Welsh, Co-founder of GYR in Southampton and expert by experience
- **Developing neurodivergence affirmative services for people experiencing homelessness and multiple disadvantage**
Amelia Draper, Evaluation and Learning Lead, Changing Futures Nottingham - Framework Housing Association
Jeremy Garner, Team Leader, Changing Futures Nottingham

With thanks to our sponsors

The Housing
Network

Headline sponsor

360°
SERVICES

Supporting sponsor

Stelling
Properties

Supporting sponsor

in-form

Supporting sponsor

- **Compassion-Informed Practice: What if how we respond to the crisis *is* the crisis**
Joe Baldock, Homeless Link Associate
- **Unlocking the Private Rented Sector: Lessons from the Front Line**
Rachel O'Connor, Programme Director, Greater Manchester Better Outcomes Partnerships
Timothy Gerech, Operational Lead - Youth Homelessness Prevention, Bridges Outcomes Partnerships
Tori Western, Operations and Development Manager, Fat Macy's
- **Homeless health hubs: Meeting the health needs of people in day centres and hostels**
Michael Holmes, Day Centre Manager, Red Door - Caritas Salford
Sophie Garforth, Day Centre Manager, Cornerstone - Caritas Salford
- **Tackling temporary accommodation – The Greenwich approach**
Vincent Lawal, Head of Housing Inclusion and Support Service, Royal Borough of Greenwich

1.15pm Lunch

- (1.35pm-2.05pm: **Optional Social Investment Lunch and Learn**
An introduction to social investment from our Head of Grants and Investments
- (1.35pm-2.05pm: **Optional homelessness qualification roundtable: Help shape their development**
A chance to feed into the development of Level 3 Certificate in Homelessness Outreach Support and Level 4 Certificate in Homelessness Management)

2.15pm Panel discussion: Responding to a changing climate: Meeting diverse needs in homelessness support

- Chair: Fiona Colley, Director of Social Change, Homeless Link
- Minnie Rahman, CEO, Praxis
- Adam Pemberton Wickham, CEO, AKT
- Kerry Douglas, Author, Keynote Speaker and Lived Experience Consultant
- Lucy Campbell, Head of Multiple Disadvantage Service Transformation and Domestic Abuse Organisational Lead, Single Homeless Project

With thanks to our sponsors

The Housing
Network

Headline sponsor

360°
SERVICES

Supporting sponsor

Stelling
Properties

Supporting sponsor

in-form

Supporting sponsor

3.25pm **Break**

3.50pm **Breakout session two – Your choice of the following sessions:**

- **Supporting migrants with no recourse to public funds**
Bethan Lant, Project Lead, Praxis
- **Radical Safeguarding Toolkit: Principles, tools and tactics towards anti-oppressive practice**
Gill Taylor, Independent Safeguarding Adults Reviewer and Systems Change Specialist
- **What if co-production isn't just about service design, but systems change?**
Carl Brown, Systems Practice Manager, MEAM (Making Every Adult Matter)
Anthony Pickup, Involvement and Inclusion Manager, MEAM (Making Every Adult Matter)
- **Climate Change: Reflecting on the impacts for people experiencing homelessness and staff**
Jo Prestidge, Head of National Practice Development, Homeless Link
Jo Turner, National Practice Development Project Manager, Homeless Link
- **Unlocking the Private Rented Sector: Lessons from the Front Line (repeat)**
Rachel O'Connor, Programme Director, Greater Manchester Better Outcomes Partnerships
Timothy Gerech, Operational Lead - Youth Homelessness Prevention, Bridges Outcomes Partnerships
Tori Western, Operations and Development Manager, Fat Macy's
- **Compassion-informed practice: What if how we respond to the crisis *is* the crisis (repeat)**
Joe Baldock, Homeless Link Associate
- **Developing neurodivergence affirmative services for people experiencing homelessness and multiple disadvantage (repeat)**
Amelia Draper, Evaluation and Learning Lead, Changing Futures Nottingham - Framework Housing Association
Jeremy Garner, Team Leader, Changing Futures Nottingham

5.00pm **Close of day one, hotel check in and relax.**

With thanks to our sponsors

The Housing
Network

Headline sponsor

360°
SERVICES

Supporting sponsor

Stelling
Properties

Supporting sponsor

in-form

Supporting sponsor

Day one - Evening

From 6.30pm: Excellence Awards drinks reception in the Atrium

From 7pm: Excellence Awards presentations and dinner

Following the dinner there will be space to unwind, grab a drink and maybe hit the dance floor, or attend our optional evening session to continue putting the worlds to rights:

(9.00pm-9.45pm

Optional informal fireside chat: Reflections on the current policy and political environment)

In this relaxed after dinner session Homeless Link's Head of Policy and Director of Social Change will discuss their thoughts on all things homelessness. Attendees are welcome to join in the conversation as active participants, or just to come along with a drink to sit back and listen.

11pm: Make your way to your hotel room

Programme - Day two

9.30am Plenary – Launch of Homeless Link’s Annual Review 2025, and

Looking to ahead: Hopes for the future

- Chair: Rick Henderson, CEO, Homeless Link
- Sophie Boobis, Head of Policy and Research, Homeless Link
- Juha Kahila, Head of International Affairs, Y-Säätiö/Y Foundation
- Phil Kerry, CEO, New Horizons Youth Centre

10.45am Break

With thanks to our sponsors

**The Housing
Network**

Headline sponsor

**360°
SERVICES**

Supporting sponsor

**Stelling
Properties**

Supporting sponsor

in-form

Supporting sponsor

11.10pm Breakout session three – Your choice of the following sessions:

- **Harnessing Data and Cash Transfers for Early Homelessness Prevention**
Rachel O'Connor, Programme Director, Greater Manchester Better Outcomes Partnerships
Sarah Cooke, Managing Director, Kirklees Better Outcomes Partnership
Jonathan Tan, CEO, Greater Change
- **Changing the narrative on homelessness and poverty**
Mike Findlay-Agnew, Chief Executive, International Network of Street Papers (INSP)
- **Transforming the homelessness system: Reflecting on 15 years of Housing First**
Sophie Boobis, Head of Policy and Research, Homeless Link
Juha Kahila, Head of International Affairs, Y Foundation
Alex Smith, Senior National Practice Development Project Manager, Homeless Link
- **An introduction to systems thinking in homelessness services**
Hannah Dillon, Systems Practice Lead, Shelter
Nicola Hayler, Systems Practice Lead, Shelter
- **Tackling subsidy loss: An alternative outcome focused approach
(A session for Local Authority attendees)**
Caroline Carpendale, Head of Homelessness, Prevention & Support, Leicester City Council
Steve Pugh, Director of Homes & Places, YMCA North Tyneside
Sukhvinder Rai, Housing and Support Director, The Housing Network
Mark Turner, Chief Operating Officer, The Housing Network
- **Looking after yourself: Vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue and burnout**
Tassie Weaver, Homeless Link Associate
- **Looking after your team: How reflective practice strengthens trauma-informed work**
Dr. Natalie Isaia, Clinical Psychologist and BGPS Head of Training
Spiros Georgiou, Head of Supported Housing, Hightown Housing Association

With thanks to our sponsors

The Housing
Network

Headline sponsor

360°
SERVICES

Supporting sponsor

Stelling
Properties

Supporting sponsor

in-form

Supporting sponsor

12.20pm Lunch

(12.35pm-1.05pm: **Optional In-Form customer lunchtime session:**
Latest developments and customer reflections
With Homeless Link's Deputy CEO and
In-Form's Senior Customer Success and Renewals Manager)

1.15pm Breakout session four – Your choice of the following sessions:

- **AI in the homelessness sector**
Neal McArdle, Founder, The Good Works
Fiona Kemster, Head of New Partnerships, BEAM
Matt Harrison, Deputy CEO, Homeless Link
- **Upstream prevention: Identifying risk of homelessness in schools**
Stephen Elder, National Prevention Manager, Centrepont
Caz Davies, Upstream Cymru Manager, Llamau
Yvonne Connolly, Operational Director, Llamau
- **Modular Housing: A future housing solution?**
Rob Saggs, CEO, CHESS Chelmsford
Natasha Davies, CEO, Jimmy's Cambridge
Eamonn Kelly, Resident, Jimmy's Cambridge
Matt Wiseman, Team Leader, Jimmy's Cambridge
- **Responses to opioid overdose in supported accommodation settings**
Chris Rintoul, Head of Harm Reduction, Cranstoun
Philippe Bonnet, Overdose Prevention Centre Lead, Cranstoun

With thanks to our sponsors

The Housing
Network

Headline sponsor

360°
SERVICES

Supporting sponsor

Stelling
Properties

Supporting sponsor

in-form

Supporting sponsor

- **Looking after your team: How reflective practice strengthens trauma-informed work (repeat)**
Dr. Natalie Isaia, Clinical Psychologist and BGPS Head of Training
Spiros Georgiou - Head of Supported Housing (Homelessness & Mental Health), Hightown Housing Association
- **Looking after yourself: Vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue and burnout (repeat)**
Tassie Weaver, Homeless Link Associate

2.30pm **Final refreshments**

Have a final drink, afternoon snack, and debrief with other delegates discuss everything you have heard and learnt over the two days.

3.00pm **Close of conference**

With thanks to our sponsors

The Housing
Network

Headline sponsor

360°
SERVICES

Supporting sponsor

Stelling
Properties

Supporting sponsor

in-form

Supporting sponsor