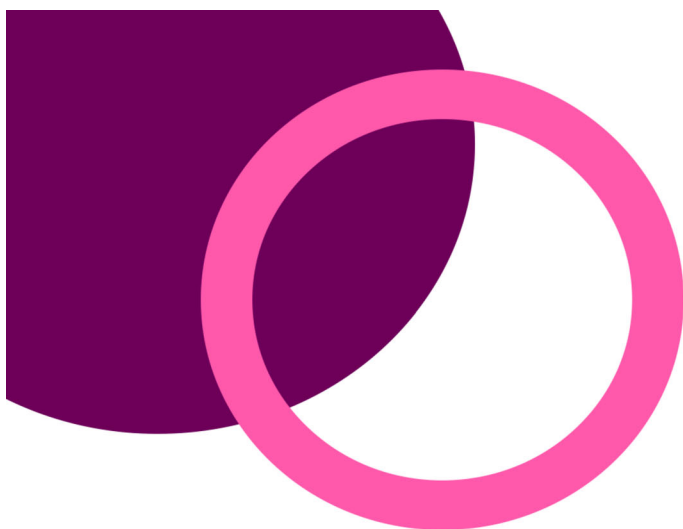




Leadership Summit 2025

Meet our speakers!



Keynote speakers and panellists

	Rick Henderson, CEO, Homeless Link Rick is the CEO of Homeless Link and was appointed to that role in July 2012. He is a member of the new Government's Expert Advisory Group of Homelessness and the London Mayor's Rough Sleeping Task Group.
	Sarah Elliott, CEO, Shelter Sarah is a leading figure in the voluntary sector with more than 20 years' experience championing social justice and driving change. She became Chief Executive of Shelter in September 2025, leading the organisation's fight for home. Previously, Sarah steered the National Council for Voluntary Organisations through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, serving as Director of Policy and Volunteering and later as Chief Executive. Her earlier roles include senior positions at Epilepsy Society and The Neurological Alliance. Alongside her executive career, Sarah is a trustee of the food poverty charity Trussell and has previously served on the boards of National Voices and The Brain and Spine Foundation.
	Zena Everett, Leadership Coach and author of The Crazy Busy Cure and Badly Behaved People Zena Everett is a Leadership Coach and author of The Crazy Busy Cure and Badly Behaved People. She is a visiting lecturer at Henley Business School and has coached on the Executive MBA at Oxford University's Said Business School. Zena started, ran and sold a successful recruitment company and has been a trustee of Quo Vadis Trust, a social house charity in Southeast London.

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	Dr Danny Sriskandarajah, CEO, New Economics Foundation and author of Power to the People Dr Danny Sriskandarajah is Chief Executive of the progressive think tank, the New Economics Foundation. He has previously led organisations such as Oxfam Great Britain, CIVICUS, and the Royal Commonwealth Society. His latest book is "Power to the People: Use your voice, change the world" (Headline Press, 2024).
	Fiona Colley, Director of Social Change, Homeless Link Fiona is the Director of Social Change at Homeless Link, leading our influencing and member engagement work across policy and practice. Fiona seeks to develop and inspire a movement of organisations to work together to challenge and drive change in systems that are not working for people at risk of and experiencing homelessness. Prior to joining Homeless Link five years ago, Fiona spent 20 years working in local government and politics.
	Debra Alcock Tyler, CEO, Directory of Social Change Debra has worked in the charitable and voluntary sector for nearly 40 years with brief forays into the private sector. Amongst numerous other roles, she is Co-Chair of the Soldiering on Awards. She is a Trustee of In Kind Direct, one of the Prince's Foundation Charities, a governor of the Berkshire NHS Community Foundation Trust, a Commissioner on the Local News Commission of the Public Interest News Foundation, and just recently stood down as trustee of the Berkshire Community Foundation. She is also an Africa Advocacy Foundation Ambassador for women and girls at risk of or affected by Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Debra has served as a trustee of several charities including being the co-founder of the Small Charities Coalition and was its first Chair. She served on the Charity Commission's SORP committee for over 7 years and was the Vice-Chair of Governors of Whiteknights primary school for 6 years. She is a renowned public speaker with many years' experience of training and coaching and is an internationally published author of several books on management and

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	leadership including It's Tough at the Top; The Pleasure and the Pain; It's Murder in Management and It's a Battle on the Board. Debra has a regular monthly column in Third Sector magazine and has appeared on Radio 4's The Moral Maze. Debra is an alumna of Windsor Leadership having participated on the Strategic Leaders Consultation.
	Steve Hoey, CEO, Turning Lives Around Steve is the Chair of the Homelessness Prevention Forum in Leeds. He is also the CEO of Turning Lives Around, a large charity that has been housing and supporting homeless people in West Yorkshire for over 50 years. During his 30-year career he has held a variety of roles including volunteer, Support Worker, Foster Carer, Co-Founder, trustee, Chair and CEO of 4 different organisations over the last 15 years. He is passionate about supporting people with multiple and complex needs. In his spare time, he enjoys rock climbing with his kids and friends.
	Bridget Young, CEO, NACCOM Bridget Young is the Director of The No Accommodation Network (NACCOM), a membership organisation of 130 charities and community groups across the UK supporting people facing homelessness and destitution in the asylum and immigration system. Before this, Bridget was at the Nationwide Foundation, where she managed the Transforming the Private Rented Sector programme. This included co-founding the Renters' Reform Coalition. Originally from South Africa, Bridget's background is in human rights, social justice and homelessness. Soon after moving to the UK, Bridget joined Crisis and spent ten formative years in the housing team working with charities and local authorities across the UK to fund, establish and deliver housing services.

Day 1 breakout session speakers

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	Sophie Boobis, Head of Policy and Research, Homeless Link Sophie Boobis is Head of Policy and Research at Homeless Link where she leads a team to produce evidence informed policy influencing across a range of policy areas impacting people experiencing homelessness. She has been working homelessness policy for over a decade with a continued focus on how to ensure that research provides the knowledge and evidence needed to influence policy makers, and a priority of making sure the reality of the experiences of those working in services, and people with lived experience of homelessness are embedded throughout. Sophie's published work includes homelessness funding, experiences of migrant homelessness, multiple disadvantage, youth homelessness, the implementation of the HRA, and homelessness health inclusion.
	Fiona Colley, Director of Social Change, Homeless Link (see above)
	Tom Cannon, Data Ecosystem Innovation Lead at Google and Homeless Link board member Tom leads Data Ecosystem Innovation at Google Cloud, where he works with software companies worldwide, helping them create the next generation products with Google's data and AI capabilities. He has over 25 years' experience building data-driven products, platforms, and partnerships within startups and industry leaders Salesforce and HSBC. Tom has been working with Homeless Link for over 10 years as a member of the In-Form Advisory committee and recently became a Trustee. He is also a Non-Executive Director of Trussel, the UK foodbank network, focused on technology, data and AI strategy.

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	Roger Clark, ex-CEO of West London Mission and Homeless Link Associate Roger Clark has worked with people affected by homelessness for 26 years. He has had roles with Business in the Community, Depaul, The Passage and WLM, where he was CEO for four years. He is currently a Senior Associate for Homeless Link and Interim CEO for Hammersmith, Fulham, Ealing and Hounslow Mind. He is a school governor, girls football coach and Harlequins Rugby fan.
	Matt Harrison, Deputy CEO, Homeless Link Matt Harrison is the Homeless Link Deputy CEO. He leads on all our social enterprise activity, including training, events and consultancy and our In-Form case management system. Matt also leads on all our data projects like CHAIN and also oversees our grants and investment programmes. Matt has worked for Homeless Link since 2009 and has almost 40 years of experience in the homelessness sector. Matt has a degree in Computer Science and has spent his career using IT to help end homelessness.
	Catherine Hill, Director of Partnerships and Development, Emmaus UK Catherine Hill joined Emmaus UK in August 2024 as their Director of Partnerships & Federation Development, her role focusses on supporting the 30 Emmaus charities in the UK with areas such as quality & compliance, monitoring & evaluation, learning & development and service design and delivery. Catherine has worked in the homelessness sector for the last 13 years, joining Emmaus from a West Sussex based charity called Turning Tides where she was the Head of Development & Quality.

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	David Judge, CEO, Community Ventures David Judge is CEO of CVL Housing CIC, a social enterprise unlocking affordable homes for people shut out of the mainstream housing market and a charity supporting the vulnerable in East Middlesbrough. He believes everyone deserves a decent place to live. That conviction drives CVL's model: acquire neglected properties in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, refurbish them to high standards, and pair tenancies with trauma informed support that helps residents rebuild their lives. David has secured investment, strengthened governance, and is guiding CVL towards Registered Provider status. His background spans community development, entrepreneurship and practical leadership.
	Tanya Marsh, CEO, The Society of St James Tania has worked across the charity sector for over thirty years supporting survivors of violence against women and girls and people experiencing homelessness. Her broad range of experience has been developed through working as a front-line staff member and into management roles. She has a background in service delivery and transformation and a wealth of experience in leading teams, delivering change and supporting vulnerable people, most recently for a national homelessness charity as director of operations. She is committed to providing high quality, responsive services and believes that homelessness is not inevitable and is determined to drive the system changes needed to end homelessness for good.
	Toyin Miller, Real Estate Relationship Director, Lloyds Banking Group Toyin is an accomplished finance professional with experience in the private, public, and charitable sectors, including Lloyds Bank, across the social investment sector, and Homes England. Her commitment to social and affordable housing has been a consistent focus throughout her career, as has her dedication

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	to supporting initiatives aimed at alleviating homelessness. Toyin has contributed her expertise as a non-executive in housing organisations and serves on the Social Investment Committee for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. An alumna of Loughborough University, Toyin actively participates in its diversity mentoring programme, where she provides guidance to three undergraduate students.
	Jaishree Mistry, Senior Relationship Manager Business banking, Triodos Bank UK Having started her career in commercial banking, Jaishree decided to make the move to social finance over 25 years ago. She firmly believes that the energy that is wealth can be used for the good of people and the planet. Previous roles include time spent helping young people to start up businesses at the Prince's Trust, lending and investment management roles at social banks, charities and social investment specialist organisations. She is currently a Senior Lending Manager at Triodos Bank – an ethical bank whose mission is to help create a society that protects and promotes quality of life and human dignity for all. Immediately prior to joining Triodos, Jaishree was Head of Grants and Investments at Homeless Link.
	Chloe Moore, Senior Partnerships Lead, BEAM Chloe began her career as a housing support worker before becoming Assistant Director of the team delivering commissioned housing and support services to more than 70 councils across the UK. After seeing how much time frontline staff lost to admin, Beam built its own tool in-house after realising there was no suitable technology for frontline housing teams, saving our own caseworkers eight hours a week and now used by 30,000 frontline staff nationwide. Chloe now works with housing and homelessness organisations to ensure AI delivers real, positive impact. With many colleagues long reliant on pen and paper, adoption can feel daunting. AI can't replace empathy or connection, but used well, it can reduce the admin burden that takes time away from more meaningful meetings and support for service-users.

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	Richard O'Brien, Corporate Operating Officer, Community Ventures Richard has worked in professional practice, as an institutional social investor and now as corporate finance advisor. He has been with Triodos since 2016 and has advised on client mandates across a range of sectors including charities, social enterprises, renewable energy companies, community benefit societies, social housing and wildlife charities. Prior to joining Triodos, Richard worked as an investment manager for the Charities Aid Foundation investing in social enterprises across a broad range of sectors, this included social impact bonds and other payment by results contracts. He is a chartered accountant.
	Pam Orchard, CEO, Connection at St Martin's Pam has worked in charities since 1992 and has been a senior leader and CEO in the homelessness sector since 2003, initially at Edinburgh Cyrenians, then Providence Row and The Connection at St Martins. She is a trustee at The John Laing Charitable Trust. In her spare time she is a musician, conservation volunteer and avid knitter.
	Rob Saggs, CEO, CHESS Homeless Rob has been the CEO of CHESS Homeless for the past 14 years. Having been instrumental in expanding the service to cover outreach in 8 Essex Local authorities, and ensuring some long-term accommodation is owned by CHESS. CHESS homeless currently house 88 people and have a team of 60, offering 24/7 support and outreach. Rob has recently successfully delivered a 24 modular home development - virtually fully funded at a cost of £3.2m Rob has previous experience in logistics, operations management and charity work. Rob enjoys Boating, Motorbikes, Music and time with his wife, children and dog.

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	Charlotte Talbott, CEO, Emmaus UK Charlotte Talbott joined Emmaus UK as CEO in September 2021 and has led a programme of change since commencing in post. Prior to her current role, Charlotte was Deputy CEO at the Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields and previously held senior roles in the drug and alcohol recovery sector. Charlotte was recently appointed as a member of the Government's Supported Housing Advisory Panel.
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Day 2 breakout session speakers

	Amanda Dubarry, Chief Executive, Your Place Amanda has been the Chief Executive of Your Place, a charity working with people experiencing homelessness in Newham, East London, since 2018. Prior to that she worked in youth homelessness for 22 years. She has spearheaded the expansion of service provision, with focuses on additional accommodation and new service types, rough sleeping provision, and gender- and psychologically-informed approaches, as well as developing the values, mission and brand of the charity. She is an experienced trustee, having served on the Board of several national, regional and local charities and Boards across the homelessness, health and housing sectors. She currently Chairs the National Advisory Council on Homelessness for Homeless Link. Amanda is passionate about making a difference and developing excellent services to achieve meaningful outcomes for service users, and her work and leadership is award-winning.
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	Matt Harrison, Deputy CEO, Homeless Link (see above)
	Joel Lewis, CEO, The Foyer Foundation Joel has worked in the youth supported housing sector since 2004, initially working for his local YMCA for 14 years where he designed and embedded asset-based programmes, services and systems. He joined the Foyer Federation in 2018 as Director of Network then became CEO in 2021, having supported the national charity during a time of financial hardship and senior staff transition; first to survive and then regrow its impact. Joel is passionate about working together to ensure young people who can't live at home have the tools, connections, services and inspiration they need to realise their power and purpose.
	Tania Marsh, CEO, The Society of St James (see above)
	Alex Nunn, coaching psychologist, Clear Sea Coaching Alex is a Coaching Psychologist with 20 years' experience of the charity sector. She began her career as a floating support worker, and continued working in mental health and homelessness services, 6 of these as a senior leader. After completing a MSc in Applied Positive Psychology & Coaching Psychology, Alex has specialised in working with senior leaders to help them lead without burning out, alongside delivering training on stress management and building resilience. Alex knows how important making a difference is to those in the sector and is passionate about helping people do this sustainably so they can enjoy their work.

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	Dr Tessy Ojo CBE, Chief Executive, The Diana Award and Founder of Tessy's Brunches Dr Tessy Ojo CBE is an award-winning social impact leader and Chief Executive of The Diana Award, the only charity set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales. For more than two decades, she has championed young people, women and underrepresented communities across the UK and globally. Tessy is recognised for her work in youth development, mental wellbeing and leadership, and for forging powerful cross-sector partnerships that drive long term change. She is a Non-Executive Director, international speaker and founder of Tessy's Brunches, a growing women's community committed to connection, confidence and purpose.
	Rob Saggs, CEO, The Society of St James (see above)

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What We Do

Homeless Link is the national membership charity for frontline homelessness services. We work to improve services through research, guidance and learning, and campaign for policy change that will ensure everyone has a place to call home and the support they need to keep it.

Homeless Link

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