

Under One Roof 2026

Day 1: Monday 8 June 2026

Your guide to breakout sessions

Interaction level guide

To help you choose the right sessions for you, we have included an interaction rating for each breakout session.

Interaction level 1: These sessions will focus on learning from our selected speakers but will have the opportunity for delegates to ask questions and share their thoughts on what is being discussed.

Interaction level 2: These sessions will have speaker presentations, but will also include time for questions and smaller group exercises or discussion topics.

Interaction level 3: These sessions will consist primarily of facilitated discussion allowing delegates to share with and learn from one another.

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Sessions will run twice from 11:45 – 13:00 and again from 15:45 – 17:00.

Renters Rights Act: Key changes to prevent homelessness and challenges in implementation

Interaction level: TBC

- Fiona Colley, Director of Social Change, Homeless Link (Chair)
- Mark Billings, Homelessness Adviser, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
- Speaker TBC

From 1st May this year, The Renters Right Act comes into force, ending no-fault evictions and improving security and affordability. The Act is widely viewed as a major long-term homelessness prevention reform. Key areas of the new Act include: removal of section 21 "no fault" evictions, the replacement of fixed-term assured shorthold tenancies with open-ended tenancies and longer notice periods, controls on rent increases and bidding wars, bans on discrimination that adversely impacts single parents, disabled people and young people leaving care. The changes primarily affect the private rented sector in England but also apply to supported housing, depending on the landlord and accommodation type. In this session, we'll discuss what the changes mean for providers and managers of supporting housing and the role of homeless charities and local authorities in enforcing regulation and supporting people in making changes to existing tenancy arrangements.

Temporary accommodation: A new model of provision

Interaction level: 1

- Megan Hector, Senior Policy Manager, Homeless Link (Chair)
- Andrew Humberstone, Head of Specialist Housing (Regulation Review), emh
- Laura Smith, Acting Head of Specialist Housing, emh
- David Scruton, Housing Strategy and Systems Team Manager, North West Lincolnshire District Council
- Sam Gorrell, Associate Solicitor, Forbes Solicitors

Temporary Accommodation (TA) is often costly, disruptive and harmful, particularly for children placed in B&Bs. Drawing on EMH's recent work with Northwest Leicestershire District Council, this workshop shares a simple, practical and easily replicable model for delivering TA differently. We will explore how rethinking placement, support and commissioning can significantly reduce excess deaths, improve educational outcomes for children, and ease pressures on the public purse. Set against the backdrop of the growing national TA crisis highlighted by MPs, the session offers honest insights into what works, the challenges faced, and how local authorities and partners can adapt this approach within their own areas.

From insight to impact: Aligning value-based recruitment to your employer brand

Interaction level: TBC

- Matt Harrison, Deputy CEO, Homeless Link (Chair)
- Teresa Wilson, Operations Director, Brook Street Social Care

Session leaders will provide an insight scan into what prospective candidates are seeing with different current job adverts, what blockers this is presenting to people applying, pitfalls organisations are falling into when recruiting and quick wins to improve the recruitment process.

Prison leavers and homelessness: The reality, the challenge, the solution

Interaction level: TBC

- Viv Griffiths, National Practice Development Project Manager, Homeless Link (Chair)
- Jonathan Vellacott, Director of Specialist Services, The Housing Network
- Paul Manning, Deputy Head, East Midlands Strategic Lead, Homelessness Prevention Team

This co-design session brings together frontline staff, Ministry of Justice (MOJ) partners, and individuals with lived experience to inform future CAS3 re-commissioning. The focus is on capturing the real-life challenges faced by prison leavers who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Hosted jointly by THN, MOJ frontline team members, and residents who have successfully transitioned through the service, the session will explore lived realities, key barriers, and potential solutions.

The discussion will centre on identifying and addressing the three most critical issues impacting prison leavers experiencing homelessness, with the aim of shaping more effective, responsive services for the future.

Breaking down siloed working in domestic abuse and homelessness: Why a coordinated community response approach matters

Interaction level: TBC

Session content could trigger an emotional response

- Alex Smith, Interim Head of National Practice Development, Homeless Link (Chair)
- Elise Whittaker, DAHA Homelessness & Supported Accommodation Lead, Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse

This session focuses on domestic abuse and how it intersects with experiences of homelessness and multiple disadvantage. Too often, services operate in silos, meaning signs and high-risk indicators of domestic abuse are missed, causing increased risk of homelessness/rough sleeping for survivors. The session will explore the role of a coordinated community response, looking at how your responses are currently working, and which services may be missing. We will look at the impact of when information sharing and partnership working are limited, leaving staff without the insight to safeguard service users and putting survivors at greater risk of harm and homelessness.

Moving from trauma aware to trauma-informed: The barriers and enablers to embedding a trauma-informed approach

Interaction level: 2/3

- Jo Turner, National Practice Development Project Manager, Homeless Link (Chair)
- Jo Prestidge, Head of Development, Homeless Link
- Melanie Reilly, National Supported Housing Manager, Places for People
- Kelly Headen, Head of Services, Step by Step

Over the last 18 months, 10 organisations from across the homelessness sector have partnered with Homeless Link to explore how to implement and embed a trauma-informed approach in their services, employment practices and organisational governance. This workshop will present early findings from the research and offer participants the chance to reflect on the learning, as well as to contribute their own insights and experience. We hope those attending this workshop will leave with increased understanding and inspiration about how to embed this approach in your organisation and services.

Delivering better end of life care for people experiencing homelessness

Interaction level: TBC

Session content could trigger an emotional response

Note: This session only runs once

- Sarah Longwill, National Consultancy Development Manager, Homeless Link (Chair)
- David Carter, CEO, Whitechapel Centre

- Hayley Jones, Director, YMCA Together

In this workshop session, we'll explore why planning for end-of-life care is important and examine what end of life care should look like. Using scenarios, we'll look at the key challenges faced when planning. We'll share our journey to create better end of life care, looking at resources, training, partnerships and services. Working in small groups and using scenarios we'll look at how end of life care can be dignified, planned and compassionate.

Lessons from Ofsted regulation: What Ofsted services can teach us about preparing for the supported housing standards

Interaction level: TBC

Note: This session only runs once

- Sophie Boobis, Head of Policy and Research, Homeless Link (Chair)
- Matt Bawden, Director of Progression Housing (Interim), Centrepoint
- Louise Bourne, Director of Progression (Prevention, Support & Care), St Basils

With the arrival of regulation across the homelessness sector, Ofsted regulated services are leading the pack. This session is a chance to hear from services who have become Ofsted regulated and reflect on what this tells us about the impending supported housing standards and licensing. Join Matt Bawden from Centrepoint and Louise Bourne from St Basil's as they share their journey from consultation to registration all the way to being inspected, exploring the challenges and opportunities that the process has presented, and discuss what this all means for the wider homelessness sector.