

FATIMA'S UK CAMPAIGN DIRECTORY OF INFORMATION ABOUT CONTRIBUTORS AND EXHIBITORS AT FATIMA'S UK CAMPAIGN ONE VOICE SUMMIT- AT THE GUILDHALL LONDON

234RD 24TH APRIL 2025



ONE VOICE SUMMIT EMCEE



Gemma Oaten | Seed Charity

Best known for her roles in Emmerdale, Holby City, Gemma is also a radio presenter for local BBC Radio stations, and an inspirational speaker delivering talks and hosting events.

However, her purpose lies in her work for those affected by Eating Disorders and her parents charity SEED Eating Disorder Support Services www.seed.charity of which she is CEO.

A charity co-founded 25 years ago as her parents fought to save her life as they battled helplessly to get their daughter the treatment she desperately needed. Now fully recovered, Gemma believes everyone has a chance to not just survive, but thrive.

gemma@seed.charity | www.seed.charity

ONE VOICE SUMMIT CONTRIBUTORS - SPEAKERS



Anne Longfield - Centre For Young Lives

Baroness Anne Longfield is a dedicated advocate for children, shaping national policy and championing their rights. A House of Lords member, she led the Commission on Young Lives and served as Children's Commissioner for England. Anne continues to influence change through leadership roles in health, education, and social policy.

anne.longfield@centreforyounglives.org | www.centreforyounglives.org.uk





Angela Prodger - Joint Head of Centre Pen Green Centre

Angela has over 30 years of experience in Early Years education, beginning her career as a nursery nurse before becoming a qualified teacher. Growing up with much younger siblings inspired her lifelong passion for working with young children, particularly those who are vulnerable or have special educational needs and disabilities. She strongly believes in empowering children to make choices, take supported risks, and have their voices heard and respected.

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	<p>Beth Vecchione - Care To Dance</p> <p>As a qualified social worker, Beth wanted to address the lack of creative and community focused support available for young people. This led her to found Care to Dance. Beth is undertaking a PhD exploring the impact that combining dance and trauma-informed approaches can have for care-experienced young people.</p> <p>beth@caretodance.co.uk www.caretodance.co.uk</p>
	<p>Charlie Taylor HMI Prisons</p> <p>He has extensive experience as a teacher, an expert adviser on children's behaviour at the Department for Education, and as CEO of the National College for Teaching and Leadership.</p> <p>He led the 2015 review into the youth justice system and later became the Chair of the Youth Justice Board he has continued working with the Department for Education as an adviser on behaviour hubs, a new initiative to improve the ability of schools to support their most challenging pupils.</p> <p>pupils.hmiprisons.enquiries@hmiprisons.gov.uk</p>
	<p>Charlotte Woodward - Head of Training & Development at National Centre for Domestic Violence</p> <p>A veteran 30-year leader in the domestic & sexual abuse sector, and a PhD Researcher. I have a long background in strategic management, policy and service development, and have vast experience of working with victims and perpetrators in practice and in consultation.</p>
	<p>Detective Superintendent Bas Dickson Leach</p> <p>Detective Superintendent Bas Dickson Leach leads Child Exploitation and Missing for the Metropolitan Police. Since 2016, he has led teams tackling child exploitation across London.</p> <p>He oversees the Met's Children's Strategy, ensuring child safety, trust, and justice while reducing criminalization of children in care and tackling exploitation.</p>

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	<p>Elizabeth Bryan - Fostering Network</p> <p>Elizabeth Bryan is the Assistant Director for Wales at The Fostering Network, the UK's leading fostering charity. With a strong background in programme and project management, she is passionate about the role of the third sector in driving change and improving outcomes for children and young people. Elizabeth brings extensive experience in strategic leadership and partnership development, focusing on enhancing support for foster carers and promoting best practices across the fostering community.</p>
	<p>Frank Cottrell-Boyce - Waterstones Children's Laureate</p> <p>Frank Cottrell-Boyce is an award-winning children's book author and screenwriter. His debut novel, Millions, won the CILIP Carnegie Medal. Other books include Cosmic, Runaway Robot and The Wonder Brothers. Frank co-devised the London 2012 Olympics Opening Ceremony with Danny Boyle.</p> <p>childrens.laureate@booktrust.org.uk http://booktrust.org.uk/childrenslaureate</p>
	<p>Freya Burley - Head of Mockingbird Programme at The Fostering Network</p> <p>Freya Burley leads the strategic development and implementation of the Mockingbird Programme across the UK, working to enhance the support systems for foster families and improve outcomes for children and young people in care. Her leadership focuses on expanding the reach of the programme and ensuring its effectiveness in creating resilient and caring communities within the foster care system.</p>
	<p>Gareth Evans - Director of Operations Spectra</p> <p>Gareth Evans is the Director of Operations at Spectra, a UK-based organization dedicated to supporting care-experienced young people. In his role, Gareth leads initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for young people transitioning out of the care system, focusing on areas such as housing, education, and employment.</p> <p>With a background in operations and a commitment to social impact, Gareth has been instrumental in developing programs that provide practical support and opportunities for care leavers. His work emphasizes the importance of creating inclusive environments that empower young people to achieve independence and stability.</p>

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Gemma Struthers - Fostering Wellbeing Programme Manager

Gemma Struthers is the Fostering Wellbeing Programme Manager at The Fostering Network in Wales. Her work involves close collaboration with foster carers and professionals to implement the Fostering Wellbeing programme, which aims to provide holistic support to those in the care system.



Ian Thomas - Rees Foundation

Ian Thomas is actively involved with the Rees Foundation, a UK-based charity dedicated to supporting care-experienced individuals. His contributions encompass research, advocacy, and public speaking, all aimed at improving outcomes for those who have been in the care system.



Helen Hayes MP Chair of the House of Commons Education Select Committee

Helen Hayes is the Labour MP for Dulwich and West Norwood, first elected in 2015 and currently serves as Chair of the Education Select Committee.

Helen has previously served as Shadow Minister for Education and has been a member of both the HCLG Select Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee.

helen.hayes.mp@parliament.uk | helenhayes.org.uk



Janet Daby MP - Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing of the United Kingdom

Janet has served as Member of Parliament for Lewisham East since 2018. She has served as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Department for Education since July 2024

She previously worked in volunteer management and children's social care, acting as a registered fostering manager. She founded the Whitefoot and Downham Community Food Project in 2013.

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Joanne McCartney - Statutory Deputy Mayor of London

Joanne is the Statutory Deputy Mayor of London and Deputy Mayor for Children and Families. She leads initiatives on youth well-being, universal free school meals, and school mental health support.

A former Enfield councillor, she has chaired health committees and the Early Years Partnership, advocating for public services and education.



Jacqui Sherlock - Youth Futures Foundation

Jacqui Sherlock serves as the Head of Policy at the Youth Futures Foundation, a UK-based organization dedicated to improving employment outcomes for young people, particularly those from marginalized backgrounds. In her role, Jacqui leads the development and implementation of policy initiatives aimed at addressing youth unemployment and promoting equitable access to quality jobs.



Jessica Leader - SureStay Co-Founder




Jessica Leader is the Co-Founder and Managing Director of SureStay Group Ltd, a UK-based property development company focused on creating homes for vulnerable individuals and families. Established in February 2024, SureStay Group operates primarily in Birmingham and the Midlands, aiming to merge property investment with social impact by providing stable housing solutions for those in need.

Jessica collaborates with private investors interested in purposeful investments, utilizing her property development expertise to identify and refurbish buildings into homes that support community well-being. Her approach emphasizes the importance of combining profit with purpose, ensuring that financial returns align with positive societal outcomes.

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	<p>Jonathan Stanley - NCERCC</p> <p>45 years working in Residential Child Care. 15 years each local authority, private and voluntary organisations across care, education and health.</p> <p>Always where the best can be achieved for children and young people. Continuously involved with developing and supporting policy and practice.</p> <p>In 2000 NCERCC Manager, and later concurrently in the post of CEO ICHA, working extensively with providers, local and national government, regulator. Continuously involved as a core member of groups involved in many policy and practice developments</p>
	<p>Lord John Bird</p> <p>Baron John Bird is a British social entrepreneur and life peer, best known as the co-founder of <i>The Big Issue</i>, a magazine empowering homeless and vulnerably housed individuals. A dedicated advocate for social change, he serves as an independent crossbench member of the House of Lords, championing solutions to poverty and homelessness.</p> <p>john.bird@bigissue.com www.bigissue.com</p>
	<p>Nicola Mundy - Child Wellbeing Lead and Public Health Specialist</p> <p>Nicola Mundy is a dedicated Child Wellbeing Professional and Lead for Learning from Child Deaths at NHS Surrey Heartlands Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). In her role, she focuses on reviewing and learning from child deaths to inform public health strategies and improve outcomes for children and families.</p> <p>Nicola is actively involved in training and development initiatives. She has contributed to the PSHE Leaders & Champions training program, which aims to enhance personal, social, health, and economic education in schools across Surrey.</p>

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Nicola Sturgeon - MSP Glasgow Southside (former First Minister of Scotland)

Nicola Sturgeon is a Scottish politician who served as the First Minister of Scotland from 2014 to 2023 and is a Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) for Glasgow Southside. She was the first woman to hold the position of First Minister and the first female leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP).

During her tenure, Sturgeon focused on policies related to health, education, social justice, and Scottish independence. She led Scotland through the COVID-19 pandemic and was a prominent voice in advocating for a second Scottish independence referendum.



Phil Jacob - Fostering Friendly Employers - The Fostering Network

Phil Jacob serves as the Head of Fundraising at The Fostering Network, the UK's leading fostering charity. In this role, he is responsible for developing and implementing fundraising strategies to support the organization's mission of improving foster care services and outcomes for children and young people.



Rt Hon Michael Gove

Michael Gove is the Editor of The Spectator. A former Member of Parliament for Surrey Heath and UK Government Cabinet Minister, he served in Cabinet across five government departments for more than a decade.

michaelagove@gmail.com

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Raffaella Goodby FCIPD - Chief People Officer Birmingham Women's & Children's Trust. Joint Programme Director NHS Universal

Raffaella Goodby is the Chief People Officer at Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust (BWC), bringing over two decades of experience across local government, the NHS, and the private sector. Since joining BWC in October 2020, she has been instrumental in fostering an inclusive workplace culture, emphasizing the importance of colleagues bringing their whole selves to work.



Chief Inspector Rob Gibbs – Metropolitan Police

Rob is currently the neighbourhood chief inspector for the London Borough of Enfield and is deputy lead for Clear Hold Build within the Met. Rob has led this methodology in the Grahame Park Estate in Barnet, and now Northumberland Park & Edmonton in Enfield & Haringey.

Both of these projects have significantly enhanced the partnership approach within the London Boroughs and seen significant reduction in crime and antisocial behaviour.



Ronnie Archer-Morgan

I spent some of my childhood in the 1950's/69s in care homes & some years with my unwell schizophrenic mother. I achieved good qualifications at school. My first job was as a technician at Imperial College. I subsequently had many interesting jobs & am now a specialist on BBC's Antiques Roadshow.

rarchermorgan@gmail.com | www.actionforchildren.org.uk

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Rosie Blackett - Care Leavers Covenant

Rosie Blackett is a Participation & Engagement Manager for the Care Leaders Fellowship, where she focuses on amplifying the voices of care-experienced young people. She specializes in co-production and youth advocacy, working to involve young people in shaping policies and services.

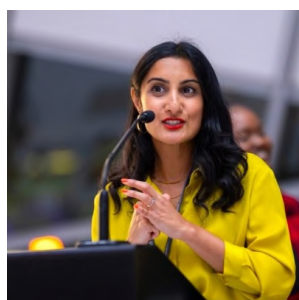
Rosie also collaborates with initiatives like the Care Leaver Covenant to support care leavers' transitions into employment and independent living. Her work promotes inclusive, youth-led decision-making and systemic improvement.



Russell Winnard - CEO Drive Foundation

Russell Winnard is the CEO of the Drive Forward Foundation, where he leads efforts to support care-experienced young people into employment and independence. He previously served as COO at Young Enterprise UK, championing financial literacy and enterprise education.

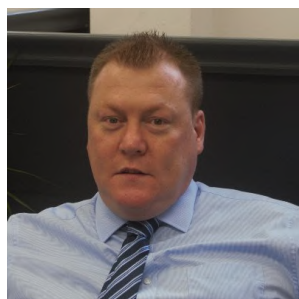
With a background in teaching and education consultancy, Russell brings over 20 years of experience in youth development and nonprofit leadership to his role, focusing on creating real opportunities for vulnerable young people.



Shilpa Belliappa

Shilpa Belliappa is a child safeguarding expert and Youth Infrastructure Lead, driving equity and systemic change for children and families. She plays a key role in mentoring initiatives, supporting the Mayor's New Deal for Young People, and advocating for care-experienced youth by fostering trusted relationships.

shilpa.belliappa@london.gov.uk



Terry Galloway

Terry Galloway is a passionate advocate for care-experienced young people, driven by his own journey through over 100 placements in the care system. Inspired by his late sister, Hazel Galloway, he champions better transitions into education, housing, and employment, believing that vulnerability can be transformed into incredible potential.




terrygalloway@myself.com

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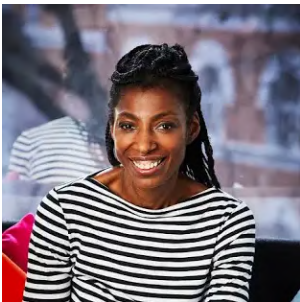


ONE VOICE SUMMIT PANEL MEMBERS

	<p>Professor Alexis Jay</p> <p>Alexis Jay, CBE, is a British academic and social work expert. She led the 2014 Rotherham child sexual exploitation inquiry, revealing systemic failures. Appointed chair of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse in 2016, she served until its conclusion in 2022. In 2023, she was tasked with proposing an independent safeguarding system for the Church of England.</p> <p>alexis.jay@strath.ac.uk</p>
	<p>Barry Fletcher - CEO of Youth Futures Foundation</p> <p>Barry became in January 2023, leading the national What Works Centre for youth employment, with a focus on marginalized young people. His career has been dedicated to supporting people into work and helping young people fulfil their potential.</p> <p>Prior to joining Youth Futures Foundation, Barry served as CEO of Career Connect, a youth-focused charity. He has held a variety of executive leadership roles and trustee positions, focusing on delivering evidence-based services that create meaningful impact.</p> <p>https://youthfuturesfoundation.org/</p>
	<p>Dr Carol Homden CBE</p> <p>Carol started her career setting up print media enterprises before becoming Director of Marketing and Development at the University of Westminster, later moving to the British Museum in 1999 as its first Director of Marketing and Public Affairs. Her affinity for improving the lives of young people led her to the position of Commercial Director for the Prince's Trust in 2003, and she became Chief Executive of Coram in 2007.</p> <p>carol@corum.org.uk</p>

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	<p>Claire Burns - Director of CELCIS</p> <p>After a long career spent in children and families social work practice, Claire now plays an important leadership role within the CELCIS Directorate. Claire's principle focus is to make sure that we really know and understand what works best when it comes to supporting looked after and vulnerable children, their families and care leavers. Claire is a champion for this knowledge to be included in legislation, policy and guidance and implemented in support services. Free time is spent with her triplet nieces, going running, and singing in the Rock Choir.</p>
	<p>Dame Sharon White</p> <p>Dame Sharon Michele White served as the sixth Chairman of the John Lewis Partnership, having previously held a variety of roles in the Civil Service. She was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) for her public service</p> <p>She is now the Managing Director and Head of Europe for Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ)</p>
	<p>Dan Mitchell - Detective Superintendent - Head Of County Lines</p> <p>As an experienced & commended Detective, Dan has worked in local CID departments in Wandsworth and Merton; on the Flying Squad, Kidnap & Extortion and Modern Slavery Specialist Crime teams; at Counter Terrorism; and led the Met's County Lines Taskforce.</p> <p>He now leads the NCLCC and works as deputy to the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) lead for County Lines & Gangs, Commander Brogden.</p> <p>https://www.npcc.police.uk/our-work/work-of-npcc-committees/Crime-Operations-coordination-committee/national-county-lines-co-ordination-centre</p>
	<p>Ed Tytherleigh - Director of Services for Centrepont</p> <p>Ed is currently Director of Services for Centrepont, responsible for their 90 services for young people at risk of homelessness around the country. He has worked in homelessness for 29 years, starting as an Outreach Worker in Manchester and London and latterly as Chief Executive of both the Housing Association Stoll and the homelessness charity SPEAR.</p> <p>Tytherleigh@centrepont.org</p>

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	<p>Isabel Trowler CBE - Chief Social Worker for Children and Families and Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel member</p> <p>Isabelle Trowler took up her post as the government's first Chief Social Worker for Children and Families in September 2013. She is well known for co-designing a practice framework for delivering child and family social work, which has influenced the children's social care practice system across England.</p> <p>linkedin.com/in/isabelle-trowler-63b79732</p>
	<p>Jean Templeton - CEO of St Basils</p> <p>Jean Templeton has been Chief Executive of St Basils since 2000, leading efforts to support homeless young people. With over 20 years in housing services, she chairs the West Midlands Homelessness Taskforce and advises the government on homelessness. She previously chaired the national Youth Homelessness Parliament (2013-2022).</p> <p>jean.templeton@stbasils.org.uk St Basils</p>
	<p>Josh McAlister OBE MP for Whitehaven and Workington.</p> <p>Immediately before being elected, Josh was the Executive Chair of Foundations, the What Works Centre for Children and Families. He is also a co-founder of youth violence prevention organisation, SHiFT.</p> <p>A former teacher, Josh founded the charity Frontline in 2013 and led the organisation for eight years before leaving this role to chair the government commissioned independent review of children's social care. Josh led the review with a focus on hearing from those with personal experience and thinking afresh about how we support children to grow up with safety, stability and love. The review concluded in May 2022 and set out a radical plan to reset children's social care so that it backs those who love and care for children- families, communities and then the care system itself.</p>
	<p>Mark Riddell MBE - care Leavers Covenant</p> <p>Mark Riddell, MBE, is the National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers at the DfE. A former care leaver, he trained as a social worker and led Trafford's outstanding care leaver services. He contributed to key policies, authored *The Cornflake Kid*, and even appeared in a *Rambo* film.</p> <p>mark.riddell@education.gov.uk Department of Education</p>

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	<p>Nicola Eschbaecher - Designated Nurse for Children in Care and Care Leavers</p> <p>Since I first supported a family through a child protection conference back in 2005, I have been passionate about finding ways to empower families, to protect children from harm. My entire career has been child and family focused, and in later years I have been working in the area of Child Death Review, hoping to contribute to our shared understanding of why children die and how we can work together to prevent future deaths.</p> <p>bnssg.safeguardingadmin@nhs.net bnssg.icb.nhs.uk</p>
	<p>Pim Gregory - The Royal Foundation</p> <p>Pim joined The Royal Foundation in 2020 as Director of Programmes for Prince William and became Executive Director, Homelessness in 2023. Previously, he spent 11 years in the Diplomatic Service and worked at the Department for International Development. He holds a BSc in Applied Psychology and an MSc in Public Policy.</p> <p>pim.gregory@royalfoundation.com Homewards</p>
	<p>Professor Ray Jones</p> <p>Ray Jones, Emeritus Professor of Social Work at Kingston University and St George's, University of London, the Independent Reviewer of Northern Ireland's Children's Social Services, and a social worker and former director of social services.</p> <p>ray.jones1@hotmail.co.uk</p>
	<p>Sarah Thomas - CEO Fostering Network</p> <p>Sarah is a social worker. She programme managed the National Fostering Framework through to the launch of Foster Wales in 2021. Sarah was appointed CEO of The Fostering Network in 2023. Her knowledge and expertise of the fostering sector is extensive, advising on policy and practice both in the UK and internationally.</p> <p>sarah.thomas@fostering.net The Fostering Network</p>

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	<p>Sue Johnson - NAVSH</p> <p>Sue has been the Virtual School Head in Salford for a little over 6 years, having previously worked in a range of teaching and leadership roles in both mainstream and special schools, and under the National Strategies as a Behaviour & Attendance Consultant. I feel very fortunate to have landed in the wonderful world of the Virtual School Head; a role that is unique within an LA, but for whom there are boundless amounts of peer support from fellow Virtual Heads across the country.</p>
	<p>Sharon Long - Partnership for Young London</p> <p>Sharon Long is the Director at Partnership for Young London. She has worked in Children and Young People's services for more than 30 years with a focus on social justice and equity.</p> <p>sharon.long@cityoflondon.gov.uk www.partnershipforyounglondon.org.uk</p>
	<p>Simon Hammond - University Of East Anglia</p> <p>Dr. Simon P. Hammond is an Associate Professor in Education at the University of East Anglia (UEA), specializing in digital resilience, youth mental health, and the use of technology to support care-experienced young people.</p> <p>He leads the Looked After Children's Mental Health Research Network (LANTERN) within UEA Health and Social Care Partners, focusing on improving mental health support for children and adolescents in care.</p>

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	<p>Tapiwa Julius - Children's Principal Social Worker National Co-Chair Children's PSW Network</p> <p>Tapiwa Julius is the Principal Social Worker at Cambridgeshire Children's Services and serves as the national co-chair of the Principal Children and Families Social Worker (PCFSW) Network.</p> <p>In these roles, she leads initiatives to enhance social work practices and policies across the UK.</p>
	<p>Tim Fisher - Kinship</p> <p>Tim Fisher FRSA is the National Practice Lead at Kinship, a UK-based charity supporting kinship carers. He is a leading expert in social work participation, co-design, and relational practice.</p> <p>As the founder of Relational Activism, Tim advocates for relationship-centered approaches in social care, emphasizing the importance of belonging and community in human services.</p>
	<p>Vivien Waterfield CBE - Home Start UK</p> <p>Vivien Waterfield CBE is a seasoned charity executive and board advisor with over 25 years of experience in leading national programs and shaping cross-sector strategies.</p> <p>She currently serves as the Interim Chief Executive of Home-Start UK, a prominent family support charity that assists over 78,000 children and their families across the UK.</p>


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	<p>William Kerridge - Political Engagement and Policy Manager Drive Forward Foundation</p> <p>Will Kerridge is the Political Engagement and Policy Manager at the Drive Forward Foundation, a UK-based charity dedicated to supporting care-experienced young people in achieving sustainable employment and independence. In his role,</p> <p>Will leads the organization's policy and advocacy efforts, focusing on influencing legislation and public policy to better support care-experienced individuals.</p>
	<p>Zenna Hopson - CEO Dallaglio RugbyWorks</p> <p>Zenna is the former Chairman of Ofsted, the children and learners' inspection and regulation body. In this role she spearheaded a new inspection regime, significant costs savings and the shift to put young people at the heart of inspection and education.</p> <p>linkedin.com/in/zennaatkins https://www.dallaglorugbyworks.com/</p>

CARE EXPERIENCED PANEL

	<p>Corum Voices - A National Voice Ambassador group</p> <p>Brings together care-experienced young people aged 16-25 who live in England to represent the voices of those who have care experience. They focus on addressing key issues identified by these young people through developing campaigns and resources. The group also collaborates with Children in Care Councils to bridge the gap between local and national initiatives. They meet with decision-makers to ensure that the voices of children and young people are heard and acted upon on a national level.</p> <p>https://coramvoice.org.uk/ Advocacy Helpline: 0808 800 5792</p>
Contributors	Dyllan, Jo, Shona, Santina and Liana
<p>Wednesday - What is a Home? Exploring what makes a placement a home and how we can listen to what matters most to children in care and care leavers.</p>	
<p>Thursday - What Makes Life Good? Sharing messages, gathered from care-experienced children and young people, to the Children's Minister, highlighting what is important to them now and in the future.</p>	

CARE EXPERIENCED PANEL - SUCCESS LOOKS DIFFERENT TO EVERYONE

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	<p>Dame Kelly Holmes MBE (mil) OLY</p> <p>Dame Kelly's illustrious athletic career spanned 12 years during which she claimed multiple medals and made history at the Athens Olympic games in 2004 as the first British woman to win two gold medals in a single Olympics. A Military Veteran, Global Inspirational Speaker and Voice for Change and Empowerment.</p> <p>andrea@doublegold.co.uk</p>
	<p>Chris Wild - Best Selling Author of 'Damaged & The State of It'. National Campaigner. Inspirational Speaker. Government Advisor</p> <p>Standing on a stage, or speaking on TV and radio, and sharing my life story is never easy. Each time I step up, I am transported back to that moment. Yet, over the years, those emotional experiences have transformed into my greatest strength. Every conference, keynote, and panel provides a unique opportunity to inspire, to change lives, and even to save lives. I always begin with love because, without it, I cannot fulfill my mission—to create a care system that truly cares.</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/in/chris-wild-b790b674/</p>
	<p>Chris Luck, CB MBE, CEO of the Shaw Trust</p> <p>Chris Luck CB MBE, CEO of Shaw Trust since May 2019, previously served a distinguished 35-year career in the Royal Air Force, achieving the rank of Air Vice-Marshal. Shaw Trust supports individuals in the UK and internationally in areas such as employment, wellbeing, and rebuilding lives.</p> <p>Email: christopher.luck@shaw-trust.org.uk LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/chris-luck-cb-mbe-dl-mphil-ma-cmgr-ccmi-92488927/</p>

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Kelli Archer - Care leaver/Expert

I am a care leaver/expert by experience. I also provide training for professionals such as the adolescent at risk forensic service and children's services. I am in my last year of my social work degree.



Kelly Thursten - Chief Inspector Essex Police - Essex Community Goals

Currently a Chief Inspector with Essex Police on the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion team. I have proudly served the county for the past 23 years. Throughout my career, I've remained committed to building stronger, safer communities — and one of the ways I do that is through football.

Organised through my role as a Police Officer and now in its fifth year, I run a football tournament called Essex Community Goals, this community-focused football tournament brings together around 200 young people aged 11 to 16 from across Essex. It's more than just a game — it's a platform for positive engagement between young people and police officers, with our younger generation because I truly believe that the relationships we build today can help prevent crime tomorrow.



Kerry Nicholl - The Rees Foundation

Kerry Nicholl serves as the Support Services Manager at the Rees Foundation, a UK-based charity dedicated to supporting care-experienced individuals. In her role, Kerry oversees the delivery and coordination of support services aimed at helping care leavers and others with care experience thrive in adulthood.

With a background in social work, Kerry brings valuable expertise to her position, ensuring that the foundation's services effectively address the unique challenges faced by care-experienced individuals.

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	<p>Kilvinder Vigurs - Regional Director at Probation Service (Yorkshire and the Humber)</p> <p>Experienced Director with a successful career in working in partnership in Criminal Justice with statutory and voluntary sector. Skilled in Government, Criminology, Change Management, Commissioning, Strategic Planning, and Organizational Development. Strong professional with a Master's degree focused in Applied Criminology, Penology & Management from University of Cambridge.</p>
	<p>Leah Hassett</p>
	<p>Linda Briheim-Crookall - Head of Policy & Practice Coram</p> <p>Linda Briheim-Crookall is Head of Policy and Practice Development at Coram Voice, a children's rights charity and part of the Coram Group. Linda has worked in policy, research and practice improvement for over 15 years, specialising in children in care and care leaver issues for a more than a decade.</p> <p>At Coram Voice she seeks to develop the voice of children and young people in the services that they receive. With her team she delivers programmes that focus on policy and practice improvement through rigorous research, co-production and engagement with children in care and care leavers, including Bright Spots (with the University of Oxford), New Belongings, A National Voice, and peer research.</p>
	<p>Lisa Johnson – Global Business</p> <p>Lisa Johnson is a UK-based global business strategist, Sunday Times bestselling author, and founder of That Strategy Co Ltd. She specializes in helping entrepreneurs build passive and semi-passive income streams through online business models. Lisa is widely recognized for her flagship program, One to Many®, which teaches individuals how to scale their businesses by moving from one-on-one services to one-to-many offerings like courses and memberships.</p>

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Steven Russell, founder of Elements Support CIC and Elements Education and Training Ltd, is a dynamic leader in the care and education sectors, driven by over 18 years of lived and professional experience. As a Dual Perspective Specialist, he seamlessly blends personal insight with professional knowledge, creating meaningful connections and actionable strategies that inspire lasting change.

Steven's unwavering passion for inclusion and compassion has earned him recognition, including the prestigious Global Inclusion Award for SEMH from the International Forums of Inclusion Practitioners (IFIP). His work challenges professionals to see beyond behavioural challenges and nurture the potential in every young person, placing humanity and empathy at the centre of care.



Rebekah Pierre is a care-experienced author and campaigner with a background in child protection social work and social policy. She has written extensively about the care system, and has appeared in publications including the Guardian, the Independent, and on BBC Radio 4 among others.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rebekah-pierre-223b04122/>



Nick Barwick INSIGHT Wellbeing Services Ltd



He is a care-experienced speaker, trainer, and founder of INSIGHT Wellbeing Services Ltd. With a deep understanding of the challenges faced by young people in care, he delivers impactful keynotes and training, championing therapeutic, trauma-informed approaches that empower young people to thrive in education, wellbeing, and personal growth. INSIGHTS provides creative, therapeutic mentoring and tutoring to children in care, care leavers, and those open to social care.

info@insightwellbeing.co.uk

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	<p>Warren Ryan - Inspire is an international speaker and author who is self-made. He has travelled the world speaking and coaching, and is a heartfelt business owner. Warren, an ENFP Personality type, is known for his big idea visionary approach."His passion for transforming lives and fostering entrepreneurship shines through his work,</p>
	<p>Matthew Page</p> <p>Matthew Page is an Identity & Intersectionality Consultant he brings 18 years of lived care experience to his work in fostering and adoption. A Trustee of The Fostering Network and a 2023 Black Legacy Leavers List Awardee, he advocates for foster children. His BBC appearance on "DNA Family Secrets" amplifies his voice in identity and fostercare dialogues</p>

BREAKOUT SESSION CONTRIBUTORS

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	<p>Alice Woudhuysen, Head of Campaigns and Public Affairs at Action for Children</p> <p>Alice is a strategic and creative political campaigner and public affairs professional, with many years' experience working on political influencing campaigns for high-profile national charities. She is also an NCTJ-qualified journalist with a background in publishing and communications.</p> <p>alice.woudhuysen@actionforchildren.org.uk</p>
	<p>Alison Woodhead, Director of Public Affairs and Communications, Adoption UK</p> <p>Alison is an external affairs, campaigns and communications professional with over 25 years' experience in the voluntary sector. She is currently working at the UK's leading advocacy organisation for adopted children and their families.</p> <p>alison.woodhead@adoption.org.uk</p>
	<p>Alistair Cope, Head of Foster Wales</p> <p>Alistair is an experienced Programme Manager with evidence of developing projects from concept phase to implementation. Above all he is passionate about Local Authority fostering and the difference it can make to the lives of children looked after in Wales.</p> <p>alistair.cope@fosterwales.gov.wales</p>
	<p>Amer Rahman, Partner at Farani Taylor Solicitors</p> <p>Amer has been a qualified lawyer since 1994. He has been involved in a range of high-profile cases. Amer specialises in Asylum and Human Rights law. He has a particular interest in civil actions against Public Authorities.</p> <p>arahman@faranitaylor.com</p>

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	<p>Amy Dean, Head of Communications and Community Relations at Wilson James</p> <p>Amy is an accomplished People Consultant experienced in driving the delivery of large scale culture change, organisation performance and business transformation projects across a variety of sectors. She is driven by working collaboratively with internal/external stakeholders.</p> <p>amy.dean@wilsonjames.co.uk</p>
	<p>Andy McNaughton - The Janice Ann McNaughton (JAM) Foundation</p> <p>My name is Andy McNaughton. I am the Founder and Chair of Trustees for The Janice Ann McNaughton Foundation, supporting care leavers into higher education. As a former senior police officer I have a wealth of experience in working with Troubled Families, Disadvantaged Young People and Crisis Intervention.</p> <p>info@thejamfoundation.org www.thejamfoundation.org</p>
	<p>Ann Thompson, National Account Manager at Shaw Trust</p> <p>Shaw Trust is a social purpose organisation challenging inequality and breaking down barriers to enable social mobility. Ann has extensive experience in business development and account management. She is passionate about helping individuals and organizations achieve their goals and overcome challenges.</p> <p>ann.thompson@shaw-trust.org.uk</p>
	<p>Anna Butcher, Leadership Progression Manager at John Lewis & Partners</p> <p>Anna is the Care Experience Manager at John Lewis & Partners. Within the company and beyond she raises awareness for a broad range of societal issues such as fostering or childlessness.</p> <p>anna.butcher@johnlewis.co.uk</p>

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	<p>Arvind Nagra - Ready Steady Go Hello Charity</p> <p>Dr. Nagra, a Paediatric Nephrologist at Southampton Children's Hospital, leads the international Ready Steady Go transition programme, the Ready Steady Go Hello charity, and the TIER programme. A global advocate for patient empowerment, she ensures young people with long-term conditions gain the skills and confidence to take control of their health</p> <p>arvnagra@gmail.com www.readysteadygohello.co.uk</p>
	<p>Bianca Robinson - CEO Sleepout UK</p> <p>Bianca Robinson is the CEO of CEO Sleepout UK, leading business leaders in the fight against homelessness and poverty. Passionate about social justice and economic equity, she mobilizes SMEs to drive positive change. With a background in business development and leadership, she challenges the status quo to create a fairer society.</p> <p>bianca@ceosleepout.co.uk www.ceosleepout.co.uk</p>
	<p>Dr Carl Ward, Founder and Chair of the <i>Foundation for Education Development</i> (FED)</p> <p>Carl has regional, national and international experience in education strategy, leadership development and school-to-school improvement. The FED is dedicated to the belief that long-term strategic education planning is vital to the success of countries and their people.</p> <p>carl@fed.education</p>
	<p>Carol Lawler - Director at NHP (National House Project)</p> <p>Carolyn specialises in improving outcomes for children with special educational needs, disabilities, and wider vulnerabilities. She has taught and led in primary schools across disadvantaged areas of the Liverpool City Region, playing a pivotal role in school improvement.</p> <p>carolyn.lawler1@liverpool.gov.uk</p>

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	<p>Catherine Streeter, Board of Directors, Help for Children (HFC) UK</p> <p>Catherine Streeter serves on the Board of Directors for Help for Children (HFC) UK, supporting global efforts to prevent and treat child abuse. HFC funds effective interventions across 10 locations in five countries, including the UK.</p> <p>Email: Catherine.streeterCstreeter7@gmail.com</p> <p>LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/catherine-streeter-48a6268/</p>
	<p>Cathy Ashley, OBE, Chief Executive at Family Rights Group</p> <p>Under Cathy's leadership, the FRG has been at the forefront of designing game-changing practice innovations, such as the 'Lifelong Links' approach for children in care and care leavers so all children have a support network to turn to in life.</p> <p>cashley@frg.org.uk</p>
	<p>Ceira Thom, Head Of Learning, Inclusion and Belonging at John Lewis & Partners</p> <p>Ceira Thom is the Head of Learning, Inclusion, and Belonging at John Lewis Partnership. She is passionate about collaborating with high-performing individuals in dynamic environments, aiming to exceed targets and deliver exceptional results.</p> <p>Email: Ceira.thom@johnlewis.co.uk</p> <p>LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/ceira-thom-72b91831/</p>

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Charlotte Lore, Interim Director of Communications, Campaigns and Marketing at Centrepont

Charlotte Lore is the Interim Director of Communications, Campaigns, and Partnerships at Centrepont, leading a 17-person team dedicated to ending youth homelessness by 2037. She specializes in amplifying marginalized voices to drive change through compelling campaigns and strategic communications.

Email: C.Lore@centrepont.org

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/charlotte-lore-nelson-7627465b/>



Chido Poe, MD Banya Family Placement Agency

Chido Poe is the Managing Director of Banya Family Placement Agency, an independent fostering agency founded in 1997. Under her leadership, Banya specializes in placing sibling groups, unaccompanied minors, children with special needs, and adolescents facing challenges.

Email: Chido.poe@banya.co.uk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/chido-poe-bb64aa175/>



Former Chief Superintendent Claire Talbot

I recently retired from Essex Police as Chief Superintendent and whilst community engagement lead I introduced the Essex Community Goals 7-a-side youth football tournament. This gives vulnerable young people the opportunity to take part in sport whilst engaging with police officers and staff all whilst raising money for charity.

claire.talbot@essex.police.uk

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Dan Feist, Chief Executive of Essex Cricket

When becoming Chief Executive, Dan said: "I am passionate about cricket at all levels in Essex and the region, from increasing participation opportunities for all members of our community, to ensuring all our squads are in the best position to challenge for trophies."

dan.feist@essexcricket-et.org.uk



Dan Jones - Chief Executive at Settle

Dan Jones is the Chief Executive Officer at Settle, a UK-based charity dedicated to ending homelessness among care-experienced young people. With a background in social impact and nonprofit leadership, Dan brings a mission-driven approach to his work. He is an alumnus of the University of Oxford and is committed to creating systemic change through youth empowerment and housing stability.
LinkedIn

In his role at Settle, Dan leads strategic initiatives aimed at providing support and resources to young people transitioning out of the care system, ensuring they have the tools and opportunities necessary for a stable and independent life.



Daniela Grant, Head of Partnerships - Adoption UK

Daniela has a diverse background in stakeholder engagement and leading partnership development across the private and third sector to build purposeful and robust partnerships to achieve long-term positive local, regional and national impact.

daniela.grant@adoptionuk.org.uk

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	<p>Debbie Hague - Wakefield Children and Young People Services</p> <p>dehague@wakefield.gov.uk www.wakefield.gov.uk/fostering</p>
	<p>Denise Hatton, Chief Executive at YMCA England and Wales</p> <p>The most important thing we can do as an organisation is to see people, strive for quality at all times, and to emphasise trust, openness and transparency in everything we do.</p> <p>denise.hatton@ymca.org.uk</p>
	<p>Dominik Stingas Paczko, Strategic Community Engagement Leader, EFL In The Community</p> <p>Dominik is driven by a passion for harnessing the power of football to create positive change in communities.</p> <p>EFL in the Community is a football charity which is the charitable arm of the English Football League (EFL).</p> <p>dpaczko@efltrust.com</p>

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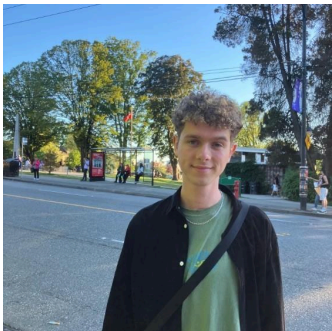

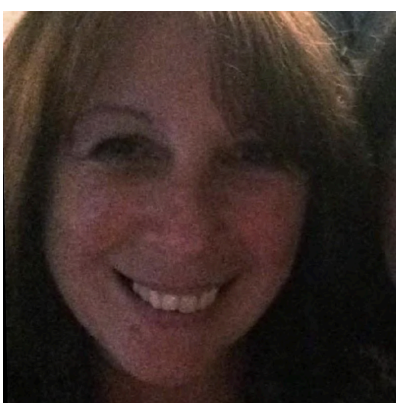


	<p>Dr Anna-Maria Mullen, Head of Development, The Salters' Company; Salter's Charitable Foundation</p> <p>The Salters' Charitable Foundation (SCF) upholds this 600-year old philanthropic tradition by distributing grants and donations to a wide range of causes that make a positive contribution to society and affect wider change</p> <p>annamaria.mullen@salters.co.uk</p>
	<p>Dr. Jo Casebourne - Chief Executive at Foundations</p> <p>Dr Jo Casebourne is the Chief Executive of Foundations. Prior to her current role she was chief executive of the Early Intervention Foundation (EIF) from August 2017 until its merger with What Works for Children's Social Care in December 2022. Jo has spent 25 years leading research on how government and public services can best support children and families. Prior to joining EIF, she worked at the Institute for Government, Nesta and the Centre for Economic & Social Inclusion.</p>
	<p>Emily Frith, CEO of Adoption UK</p> <p>Emily Frith is the Chief Executive Officer of Adoption UK, bringing over 15 years of expertise in policy, public affairs, and media relations. Her previous roles include leading policy and advocacy for the Children's Commissioner and serving as Special Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister.</p> <p>Email: emily.frith@adoptionuk.org.uk LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/emily-frith-73b54a41/</p>

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	<p>Erik Barrell, PR and Communications Assistant</p> <p>Eric Barrell is a PR and Communications Assistant at The Salvation Army UK and Ireland Territory, where he supports the PR and Communications team with administration, media relations, and reputation management.</p> <p>Email: media@salvationarmy.org.uk LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/eric-barrell-569720195/</p>
	<p>Emma Hosking - Participation Manager at Coram Voice</p> <p>Emma Hosking serves as the Participation Manager at Coram Voice, a UK-based charity dedicated to amplifying the voices of children and young people in care. In her role, she leads initiatives that ensure young people's perspectives are central to shaping services and policies affecting them.</p>
	<p>Gail Woolley, Executive Assistant</p> <p>Gail Woolley is the Executive Assistant at Pen Green & Kingswood Integrated Centre, managing HR, administration, and operations for a 120-member staff. A highly organized professional with Prince2 project management certification, she excels in diary management, workload coordination, and liaising with staff, families, and external agencies with a proactive, solutions-focused approach.</p> <p>Email: enquiries@pengreen.org LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/gail-woolley-1128574a/</p>

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Gavin Oldham OBE, Chairman and Founder of The Share Foundation

A more egalitarian form of capitalism is Gavin's passion. This seeks to use the human life cycle to provide young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with starter capital accounts and the opportunity to build their life skills with incentivised learning.

gavin.oldham@sharefoundation.com



Gemma Shannon, Deputy Designated Nurse for Children in Care and Care Leavers

Gemma Shannon serves as the Deputy Designated Nurse for Children in Care and Care Leavers at the Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board (BNSSG ICB). In this role, she advocates for the health and well-being of vulnerable young people, bringing expertise in safeguarding, healthcare planning, and multi-agency collaboration to support and improve outcomes for children and young people in care.

Email: gemma.shannon2@nhs.net

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gemma-shannon-40196a22a/>



Imogen Walsh - Boats not Bars program from Fulham Reach Boat Club





As Boats Not Bars/ Prisons Manager, I run rowing programs in seven prisons around the South East. The focus of this is using the power of sport to help serving prisoners develop the soft skills needed for employment on release, and provide a support network for that person as they transition from custody to the community.

imogen@fulhamreachboatclub.com | www.fulhamreachboatclub.co.uk

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	<p>Isabel Staza - Foster Greatness</p> <p>Isabel was born, raised, and educated in the U.S., spending her teenage years in the foster care system, which repeatedly failed her. She endured homelessness, family separation, and abuse. At 16, she bravely advocated for reform, becoming a respected leader. Today, Isabel drives global change in foster care systems.</p> <p>isabels@fostergreatness.co fostergreatness.com</p>
	<p>Jackie Ferdinand, Head of Safeguarding, Westham United Football Club</p> <p>With a background in social sciences and sociology, Jackie applies strategic oversight and expertise in safeguarding, child protection, and inclusion initiatives to bring about positive change and improvement within these organizations.</p> <p>jferdinand@westhamunited.co.uk</p>
	<p>Jade Irwin, Head of Step Up Step Down UK at The Fostering Network</p> <p>The Step Up Step Down programme is working with families where the children are on the edge of care, with the objective of providing adequate support to keep the children with their birth families.</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/in/jade-irwin-ba7584148/</p>
	<p>James Heggs, Chief Inspector Leicestershire Police</p> <p>Jim has overseen the 7 Pathways + Pilot in Leicestershire which has seen significant engagement with some the most recidivist serious acquisitive crime offenders who were found to have little management or support.</p> <p>Since implementation, offending rates have dropped, engagement with support services made, and £1.9 million of savings achieved.</p> <p>james.heggs@leics.police.uk</p>

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	<p>Jan Williams, Essex County Council, Social Worker & Manager Essex Social Care Academy</p> <p>The Essex Social Care Academy: Passionate about all aspects of Social Care CPD for Adult and Children & Families Social Care colleagues, investing in a holistic approach to learning, development and impact.</p> <p>jan.williams@essex.gov.uk</p>
	<p>Jayne Tanti - Care Leavers Cymru</p> <p>Jayne Tanti, founder of Care Leavers Cymru, is passionate about improving outcomes for children in care and custody. With 15 years of lived experience and over 18 years working with care-experienced young people, she blends personal insight and professional expertise as a trauma-informed practitioner to drive meaningful change.</p> <p>careleaverscymru@gmail.com www.careleaverscymru.com</p>
	<p>Jim Blakemore, co-director of Bikeworks, said: "More than two in five (41 per cent) of London's cyclists have never had their bike checked by a professional bike shop technician. The 45 clinics Barclays is hosting around the capital provide everyone with the opportunity for a free bike check and our Cycle Into Work graduates are among the best mechanics in the country. We are a social mission with a business, and proud to be a social enterprise. Bikeworks delivers social and environmental impact.</p> <p>https://www.bikeworks.org.uk/our-impact/</p>
	<p>Jimmy White - Active Essex Foundation - project manager Sports and Youth Crime Prevention</p> <p>He has a BA (hons) in Communications and Decision Making, and Post Graduate Certificate of Business Excellence. He previously worked for 30 years in Essex Police and finished his career as a Detective Chief Inspector in the Serious Violence Unit with a background of serious crime investigation, gangs and County Lines, knife crime and serious violence.</p> <p>https://www.activeessex.org/about-us/</p>

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John Shiels - Chief Executive of Manchester United Foundation

John leads a dedicated team of 145 members of staff, who deliver football coaching, educational programmes and personal development, providing young people with opportunities to change their lives for the better.

He is passionate about creating opportunities for young people who through no fault of their own find themselves in a limited position. By working with them and helping them to create a can-do attitude, it is hoped that if and when an opportunity comes about, they'll be in a position to take advantage.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-shiels-66758419/>



Joseph Lyons - CEO of the West Ham United Foundation, a charity that supports local communities and social programs across East London, Essex, and internationally

Joseph has over 20 years' experience working across the community sports sector, providing successful leadership and applying core values of community engagement to pioneer and create influential partnerships and projects. Since joining the West Ham United Foundation as CEO in June 2013, he has delivered an innovative approach to inspire better futures for all, particularly focusing on Health, Education and Inclusion, and breaking down social barriers for young people to achieve.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/joseph-lyons-3b017b174/>



Joy Lumb - Care4Us Community Choir Wakefield Council Fostering

I have been a therapeutic Foster Carer with Wakefield District Council for the last 13 years. I sit on the Corporate Parenting Committee and the Foster Carer Working Party and also deliver Therapeutic Parenting training alongside the Emotional Wellbeing Team. Happy to talk about Fostering or the choir to anyone

joylumb@aol.com



Jules Hillier - Chief Executive at Pause - Creating Space for Change

Can I tell you something, Jules?" a practitioner said to me a couple of years ago when I was visiting one of our practices, "We have to fix housing. That's what Pause has to think about. If we get that right, so much more will follow. Fix housing.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jules-hillier-97171b250/>

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Justin Coleman - Criminal Justice System

Justin is Co-Founder and Chief Operations Officer and he leads on the delivery of national programmes. Formerly Justin was the Operations Director at 2nd Chance Group where he led on the delivery of projects using sport and mentoring in the Criminal Justice System.

Justin has extensive knowledge of the Criminal Justice System (prison and community) and received 'Best Practice' from HM Inspectors for his work with Long Term Offenders. He was also awarded Prison Officer of the Year 2009 (Working with Young People) and a Major Butler Trust Award amongst others for his programme design and delivery.



Katherine Sacks-jones

Katharine is the Chief Executive of Become, the national charity for children in care and young care leavers. Katharine has a background in politics and campaigning and has worked in the charity sector trying to create change for the last 15 years.

I am a bold, ambitious and strategic charity chief executive. A compassionate and collaborative leader, experienced in motivating and developing teams and in building and managing networks and relationships. I have a strong reputation for growing organisations' profiles, campaigns and communications and as a highly effective media spokesperson.

<https://becomecharity.org.uk/>



Kathryn Caswell, Major Gift Fundraiser at The Share Foundation




'Sharefound' has been running the Department for Education's savings/investment schemes for looked-after children and young people since 2012 (Junior ISAs since 2012 and Child Trust Funds since 2017), during which time it has benefited over 200,000 young people.

kathryn.caswell@sharefoundation.com

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	<p>Laura Bunt, CEO at YoungMinds</p> <p>Laura Bunt is the Chief Executive of YoungMinds, bringing over 12 years of experience in transforming charities and public services. Her expertise includes digital innovation, policy change, and social impact, focusing on creating new models of welfare, work, and care for a changing world.</p> <p>Email: laura.bunt@youngminds.org.uk LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/laurabunt/</p>
	<p>Laura Dennis - Mulberry Bush Organisation</p> <p>Laura Dennis is an experienced teacher and leader working as the Education Outreach Lead at the Mulberry Bush Organisation. Laura and her team focus on working with professionals from education, social care and criminal justice sectors to develop support and understanding for children and young people. The team specialises in supporting organisations that work with children who have experienced early life trauma and have social, emotional, mental health and attachment needs. Laura is currently developing the capacity and strategy of the Outreach Team across the South of England.</p> <p>Ldennis@mulberrybush.org.uk www.mulberrybush.org.uk</p>
	<p>Lawrence Kelly BEM- Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust</p> <p>Since joining BWC Lawrence has developed programmes to support Care Leavers, Overseas Healthcare Professionals, young people who need access to learning and work experience, which will benefit all of our colleagues across our hospitals and impact on the community BWC serves.</p> <p>Phone 07393784410 lawrencekelly@nhs.net https://bwc.nhs.uk/birmingham-childrens-hospital/</p>

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	<p>Leah Morgan, Director of Programmes at Royal National Children's SpringBoard Foundation</p> <p>Leah Morgan is the Director of Programmes at the Royal National Children's SpringBoard Foundation, focusing on expanding educational opportunities for young people in underserved areas and those in or on the edge of care. She collaborates with community partners and local authorities to support access to transformative education.</p> <p>Email: ljm@royalspringboard.org.uk LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/leah-morgan-3550981ab/</p>
	<p>Lee Monk - Active Essex Relationship Manager, South Essex</p>
	<p>Lisa Brown - Supported Living Property Network</p> <p>Nurse turned property investor. After discovering that creating homes for people with support needs had challenges Lisa set out to change things. Lisa is Founder of The Supported Living Property Network and Host of The Supported Living Property Podcast and YouTube Channel.</p> <p>hello@supportedlivingproperty.uk www.supportedlivingproperty.uk</p>

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	<p>Louise Hunter - CEO - Who Cares? Scotland; Commissioner - Scottish Poverty & Inequality Commission</p> <p>I care deeply about the inequalities faced by some Care Experienced people and I know that these inequalities are not inevitable. We shouldn't accept a system which puts bureaucratic processes and a fear of risk before trying to keep families together; or creating an environment where carers can genuinely provide loving relationships; and allowing children and young people to thrive. Who Cares? Scotland has led significant change and provides excellent support and advocacy to Care Experienced people guided by lived experience.</p>
	<p>Louise Wolsey - Group Chief Strategy Officer and Deputy CEO</p> <p>Louise Wolsey is a seasoned leader in education and social impact, currently serving as the Group Chief Strategy Officer for the London and South East Education Group. This organization encompasses London South East Colleges and the London South East Academies Trust. In her role, Louise oversees strategic initiatives aimed at embedding social value and community wealth-building across the group's operations. Her efforts focus on aligning educational services with broader societal benefits, ensuring that the organization's activities contribute positively to the communities it serves.</p>
	<p>Mark Munday – The Children's Society</p> <p>Mark Munday is the National Area Manager for the London & Eastern Region Children & Family Services at The Children's Society, a UK-based charity dedicated to supporting vulnerable children and young people.</p> <p>In this role, he oversees the delivery and strategic direction of services aimed at improving the lives of children and families in these regions.</p> <p>His work involves collaborating with local authorities, community organizations, and other stakeholders to ensure that the charity's initiatives effectively address the needs of those they serve.</p>
	<p>Lucy Peake - Chief Executive Officer at Kinship</p> <p>The leading kinship care charity in England and Wales. We are here for kinship carers - friends or family who step up to raise a child when their parents aren't able to. Let's commit to change for kinship families.</p> <p>https://kinship.org.uk/</p>

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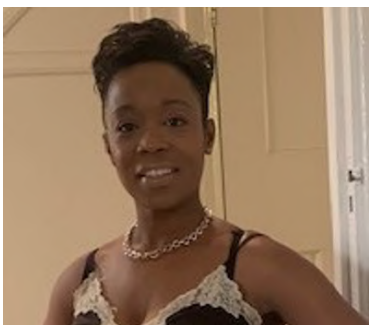


	<p>Mark Burrows</p> <p>Mark Burrows, founder of SureStay Group, has been rehousing homeless families for over seven years, providing safe, sustainable homes for more than 60 families. Through social impact investing, he purchases and refurbishes properties, partnering with investors and landlords to create lasting housing solutions and tackle homelessness across the UK</p> <p>mark@surestaygroup.co.uk www.surestaygroup.co.uk</p>
	<p>Dr. Mark Kerr is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of The Children's Homes Association (CHA),</p> <p>He previously served as interim CEO and deputy CEO, and is a recognized expert in residential childcare with a background in research, policy, and service development.</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/in/mekerr1/</p>
	<p>Matthew Gordon, Chief Executive of Spectra and the Care Leaver Covenant</p> <p>Businesses can do more to engage and enhance opportunities for young people, whilst also revealing how personal events in his life have shaped his outlook on how to be a positive influencer.</p> <p>Launched in October 2018, the Care Leaver Covenant is a promise made by private, public or voluntary organisations to provide support for care leavers aged 16-25 to help them to live independently. These organisations – they range from councils, charities, large multinationals, NHS, hotel chains, specialist trainers – make offers of help ranging from training and apprenticeships, job opportunities or mentoring and pastoral support</p> <p>https://spectraconnect.co.uk/</p>
	<p>Matthew Poole – Youth Futures Foundation</p> <p>Matthew's career has been dedicated to supporting communities and individuals to achieve their potential. Prior to working at Youth Futures, Matthew worked for the National Lottery Community Fund, where we led a number of different programmes and staff teams including Talent Match, Youth Investment Fund and the West Midlands Regional Directorate. Outside of work, Matthew remains actively involved in youth development, dedicating his time to coaching and supporting young people through local youth work initiatives in the West Midlands.</p> <p>Matthew is the Director of Programme and Grants., leading grant and</p>

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	programme teams including our What Works Programme, Connected Futures, Building Futures and Evidence into Action.
	<p>Michelle Chambers – Wakefield Foster Choir</p> <p>Michelle Chambers is a foster carer and the co-founder of the Care4Us Community Choir based in Wakefield, UK. The choir was established to raise awareness about foster care and to encourage more individuals to consider becoming foster carers. Through performances across Wakefield, the choir aims to highlight the importance of fostering and the positive impact it has on children's lives.</p>
	<p>Mija Valdez - Drive Forward Foundation</p> <p>I am the Head of Communications, Campaigns and Creative Content at Drive Forward Foundation.</p> <p>mija@driveforwardfoundation.org www.driveforwardfoundation.org</p>
	<p>Natasha Dixon</p> <p>Tash is Policy Lead for Hidden Harms and Vulnerability linked to Organised Criminality currently supporting both the Metropolitan and Leicestershire Police.</p> <p>A solo parent to twins and domestic abuse survivor Tash is passionate about supporting Women, Girls, Children and Young people through a holistic approach to Prevention, Intervention and Diversion.</p>

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Natalie Williams - The State Of The Nations' Foster Care

Natalie Williams serves as the Head of Policy and Campaigns at The Fostering Network, the UK's leading fostering charity. In this role, she leads strategic initiatives aimed at influencing national policies and advocating for systemic improvements in foster care.



Nick Cook, Director of Youth Practice at The Children's Society, said:

"Creating places to reflect, learn and grow together is so important, and this conference provided the opportunity for practitioners, operational managers and strategic leaders to consider how the city evolves its contextual safeguarding approach and to identify what steps we need to take together to achieve this.

I am committed to developing and delivering high quality services, with a focus on children and young people affected by adversity and inequality. I pride myself on my work ethic; dedicated, committed and hard working.

[linkedin.com/in/nick-cook-8b27441b4](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nick-cook-8b27441b4)



Nina Kemp-Jones, Foster Wales Regional Development Manager - Gwent

Nina Kemp-Jones is the Regional Development Manager for Foster Wales in Gwent, with over 25 years of experience as a qualified social worker. She is passionate about supporting foster carers through learning and development to create brighter futures for children.

Email: Nina.Kemp-Jones@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nina-kemp-jones-a4763098/>



Olufemi Kuforiji - Director of Participation Team - NHS Universal Family Career Development




The programme keeps young care leavers at its very centre, through skill development and employment whilst enriching our diverse workforce and delivering positive journeys for all.

"Nav Sharma and Femi Kuforiji from our Widening Participation Team have developed a programme we can be truly proud of, their creative approach and that of our partnership network is inspiring and the results speak for

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	themselves.
	<p>Polly Jones - Educational Psychologist at Dundee City Council and Director at Jones Educational Psychology Limited</p> <p>With over 25 years experience, Jones Educational Psychology limited offers private educational assessments for children and young people from 5-26. Assessments include dyslexia and dyscalculia as well as wider assessment of cognitive strengths and needs. The service is delivered across Tayside on request.</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/in/polly-jones-1055b56a/</p>
	<p>Rachel Grimshaw - Lambourne End Centre for Outdoor Learning</p> <p>Rachel serves as a trustee within Lambourne End Centre for Outdoor Learning Charity. From a background in education management, she is part of the strategic development team moving the organisation forward. Liaising with local authorities, school leaders, politicians and philanthropists, Rachel seeks opportunities which help move young people forward.</p>
	<p>Rob Gayler - Lambourne End Centre for Outdoor Learning</p> <p>Following 10 years running City Farms, Rob has spent the last 20 years managing Lambourne End Centre, developing the use of outdoor learning to improve young people's health and wellbeing and foster their personal development, supporting them to overcome obstacles in life and inspiring positive lasting change.</p> <p>rob.gayler@lambourne-end.org.uk www.lambourne-end.org.uk</p>
	Rob Griggs - Home Office
	Salma Begum

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	<p>Samantha Frith-Jones, Service Manager AFKA Cymru</p> <p>Samantha Frith-Jones is the Service Manager at AFKA Cymru, a role she has held since October 2021. She qualified as a social worker in Wales in 2006 and has extensive experience working with children and families. Prior to her current position, she served as Operations Manager at AFA Cymru and Foster Wales. In her current role, she leads training, research, and policy initiatives to improve adoption and fostering outcomes across Wales.</p> <p>Email: Samantha.frithjones@afkacymru.org LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/samantha-frith-jones-24a069229/</p>
	<p>Sarah Lyles - Surrey County Council</p> <p>Sarah is the PSHE, Wellbeing & Surrey Healthy Schools lead at Surrey County Council within Public Health and Education. Her cross-agency role supports the development of the Surrey Healthy Schools Approach to wellbeing, health, inclusion and achievement. She is the former lead for the DfE National PSHE CPD Programme.</p> <p>sarah.lyles@surreycc.gov.uk www.healthysurrey.org.uk/professionals/healthy-schools</p>
	<p>Samantha Walshaw, Head of Service for Wakefield Children's Homes</p> <p>Has over 17 years Social Care experience and national winner of the Senior Leader Award at the CYP Awards. Samantha has 3 OFSTED Outstanding Homes and is recognised as a sector lead for local authorities.</p>

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	<p>Sean Daly - Chief Executive Officer at Millwall Community Trust</p> <p>Millwall Community Trust aims to provide sporting, education, social and healthy lifestyle opportunities to the local communities of Lewisham and Southwark at affordable prices.</p> <p>https://www.millwallcommunity.org.uk/</p>
	<p>Sharon Bryan - Consultancy Community Interest</p> <p>Specialises in survivor consultation and intervention, risk assessment, facilitation of The Freedom Programme and Multi-Agency training. Sharon has extensive experience of delivering consultation to Social Workers and Child Protection Chairpersons. She is a qualified IDVA and sat on the Westminster MARAC panel for 14 years. She is an accomplished public speaker and has been involved in media work</p> <p>https://sharonbryanconsultancy.com/</p>
	<p>Simon Wingate - Lovels</p> <p>As a continuation of our fantastic relationship with West Midlands Combined Authority, we have been appointed as one of the first framework contractors for the Homes for the West Midlands Limited Liability Partnerships (LLP). We've consistently shown the power of public and private sector partnerships across the region and we're looking forward to further supporting the acceleration of social housing for West Midlands residents as part of the newly launched LLP scheme.</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/company/lovel-partnerships/</p>
	<p>Simon Edwards - West Midlands Police</p>

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	<p>Sue Hammersley, Director at NHP (National House Project)</p> <p>Sue Hammersley is a qualified social worker with over 16 years of strategic experience managing safeguarding and looked-after children services in local authorities. As Director of the National House Project, she collaborates with young people to develop innovative approaches for care leavers, ensuring they are central to all initiatives.</p> <p>Email: sue@thehouseproject.org LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/sue-hammersley/</p>
	<p>Dr Sue Knowles</p> <p>Dr Sue Knowles is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist for Changing Minds Child and Family Services (CMCAFS), Co-Founder of the Centre of Psychologically Responsive Leadership (CPRL), a Researcher and Author (with 'The Psychologically Responsive Leader' and 'The Insider's Guide to Foster Care' out this year).</p> <p>sueknowles@changingmindsuk.com www.CMCAFS.com</p>
	<p>Suzanne Parrott</p> <p>Suzanne Parrott is the Executive Headteacher/Associate Director of AfC Virtual School and College. Suzanne previously held senior leadership roles in a secondary school, was Head of Drama and Head of Year. Her first career was as a professional actor and singer.</p> <p>suzanne.parrott@achievingforchildren.org.uk www.afcvirtualschool.org.uk</p>

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	<p>Suzanne Griffiths</p> <p>Suzanne's passion is improvement for children & young people. She has worked in various social work roles since 1987, incl. the Welsh inspectorate. Suzanne became Director of Foster Wales when it was launched in 2002, having led it's development alongside being Director of the National Adoption Service for Wales.</p> <p>suzanne.griffiths@adoptcymru.com</p>
	<p>Tav Juttla - Business Manager</p> <p>Tav Juttla serves as the Business Manager for the Achieving for Children (AfC) Virtual School, which supports the education of children with a social worker—including those in care, previously looked after, in kinship care, or on child protection plans—across the boroughs of Kingston, Richmond, and Windsor & Maidenhead.</p> <p>In his role, Jav is responsible for managing the operational and financial aspects of the Virtual School. This includes overseeing budgets, coordinating resources, and ensuring that the school's administrative functions run smoothly to support the educational outcomes of the children and young people it serves.x</p>
	<p>Teresa Jennings, CEO Brathay Trust</p> <p>Teresa Jennings, CEO of Brathay Trust, is a dynamic leader with a proven track record in charity growth, policy influence, and transformational change. Passionate about making a positive impact, she brings expertise in strategy, innovation, and leadership, driving meaningful change for communities and organizations.</p> <p>Email: teresa.jennings@brathay.org.uk LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/teresa-jennings/</p>
	<p>Thomas Carlton - The Promise Scotland</p> <p>Thomas Carlton is the Implementation Lead at The Promise Scotland and a social worker dedicated to improving the care system. A former advocacy worker and policy officer, he played a key role in securing Scotland's Independent Care Review. Thomas uses his lived and professional experience to drive systemic change.</p> <p>thomas@thepromise.scot</p>

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Tom Hunter, Senior Public Affairs Adviser at Foundations

Tom Hunter is the Senior Public Affairs Adviser at Foundations, the national What Works Centre for Children and Families. With over a decade of experience in campaigns and policy, he possesses strong political insight and expertise in education and youth advocacy. His role encompasses leading communications, research, and advocacy strategies to effect meaningful change.

Email: tom.hunter@foundations.org.uk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tomjhunter/>



Vicki (Swain) Jones, Head of Public Affairs and Stakeholder Relations

Vicki Jones serves as the Head of Public Affairs and Stakeholder Engagement (job share) at Youth Futures Foundation, bringing over 20 years of experience in driving policy change across the UK. She is a skilled media spokesperson, public speaker, and expert in high-level public affairs and stakeholder engagement.

Email: Vicky.jones@youthfuturesfoundation.org

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/vicki-swain-jones/>



William Roberts, Chief Executive

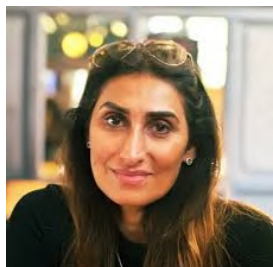
William Roberts is the Chief Executive of the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH). He has held senior leadership positions in the NHS, focusing on public health, commissioning, strategy, transformation, and planning. A registered nurse, William has experience in both hospital and community settings, specializing in tuberculosis and HIV care. He also serves as a Non-Executive Director of Housing 21 and was previously Deputy Chair at the Terrence Higgins Trust.

Email: wroberts@rsph.org.uk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/william-roberts-6b46435/>

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Yasmin Khan

Yasmin Khan-Director and Founder of Halo Project-National Advisor for the Welsh Government, supporting young people, victims of honour-based abuse, forced marriage, and domestic violence. A leading advocate for human rights, working with policymakers, public authorities and communities to drive systemic change and safeguard vulnerable individuals across the UK

yk@haloproject.org.uk | www.haloproject.org.uk



Ed Tytherleigh

Ed is currently Director of Services for Centrepoin, responsible for their 90 services for young people at risk of homelessness around the country. He has worked in homelessness for 29 years, starting as an Outreach Worker in Manchester and London and latterly as Chief Executive of both the Housing Association Stoll and the homelessness charity SPEAR.

Tytherleigh@centrepoin.org

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EXHIBITORS



Active Essex

Active Essex is the Physical Activity and Sport Partnership for Essex, Southend, and Thurrock, working with local partners to transform lives through physical activity. As one of 43 Active Partnerships in England, its vision is to improve health and wellbeing by making movement a part of daily life.

This includes strengthening communities, providing young people with a healthy start, creating inviting spaces for activity, and ensuring access to good physical and mental wellbeing for all. By collaborating across systems, Active Essex strives to embed physical activity into everyday routines for a healthier, more active community. administration@activeessex.org



Adoption UK

Adoption UK is the leading charity for adopted and care experienced people, adoptive families, and others parenting children who can't live with their birth parents.

Set up in 1971, we'll be here for adopted and care experienced children, adults and their families for as long as they need us. Our vision is a society where every child or young person unable to live with their birth parents can thrive in childhood and has an equal chance of a bright future as an adult. Our purpose is to secure the right support at the right time for children and young people who are unable to live with their birth parents, from childhood into adulthood. www.adoptionuk.org



Amazing Apprenticeships

Amazing Apprenticeships is a leading organisation in the education sector, working with schools, colleges and employers, tackling misconceptions and promoting the benefits of apprenticeships and technical education.

We influence the way that apprenticeships are perceived and drive forward innovative and creative work to ensure that more individuals and businesses can access the benefits of apprenticeships. We lead the national Moving On Up network – a 600 strong network of experts, specialists and supporters with the focus on widening access to opportunity through apprenticeships for care experienced young people. Hello@amazingapprenticeships.com



Attachment Research Community (ARC)

ARCs mission is that all schools and education settings are trauma-informed and attachment aware. This evidence-based approach

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benefits the whole school community but particularly the most vulnerable.

ARC play a key role in bring professionals together to share best practice and support each other. We do this through online and in person Learning Events and conferences, sharing research and evidence and recognising great practice through our ARC Timpson Awards. Members also have access to a wealth of tools and resources on our members platform. zoe@the-arc.org.uk



Ayanay

The term Ayanay (Ayanay Psychological Accreditation APA), refers to people who are trailblazers, torch-bearers, researchers, teachers and those who show others the way. They are leaders, motivators and idealistic visionaries who are aware of their own innate powers. info@ayanay.co.uk



Banya Family Placement Agency

We provide a high standard of foster care for a range of children and young people. Banya has developed specialisms in placing sibling groups, unaccompanied children and young people from overseas, children with special needs, and troubled teenagers. info@banya.co.uk



Become Charity

Our mission is to help children in care and young care leavers to believe in themselves and to heal, grow and unleash their potential. We work alongside them to make the care system the best it can be. advice@becomecharity.org.uk

Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust (BWC) brings together the very best in paediatric and women's care in the region. Our Trust is the first of its type in the UK, formed in February 2017 to drive forward our commitment to providing the highest quality, world-class care that women, children and families want, and deserve



Bikeworks CIC

Bikeworks is an award-winning social enterprise that uses cycling to create positive social impact. We provide access to cycling for young people, including those in the care system, through inclusive cycling clubs, skills training, and confidence-building activities.

Our specialist cycles and supportive instructors ensure that every young person, regardless of ability or background, can experience the freedom, joy, and independence that cycling brings. Through our programs, young people develop resilience, social connections, and practical skills that enhance their well-being and future

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opportunities. We believe cycling is a powerful tool for inclusion, personal growth, and lasting positive change. jim.blakemore@bikeworks.org.uk



BookTrust

BookTrust is the UK's largest reading charity. Our mission is to get children from low-income and those experiencing vulnerability reading regularly and by choice. All of our programmes and resources are designed directly with and for children and families, and the professionals who support them. BookTrust partner with organisations and practitioners working daily with families in the social care system. We ensure our programmes are part of the wider support to increase life-chances for these children and families.

Sharing stories strengthens bonds, supports attachment and can help children feel secure and loved. bridget.blanchard@booktrust.org.uk



Brathay Trust

Since 1946 Brathay has been inspiring young people to build their own brighter futures. We work with young people from across the UK, from primary school age through to their early careers. hello@brathay.org.uk



Care to Dance

Care to Dance is a social enterprise, led by qualified social workers and dancers, that supports care-experienced young people through dance and helps them feel a sense of belonging, freedom and connection.

We find creative ways to help them process their experiences and learn how to express themselves in a positive way, in a safe environment free from fear of judgement and among others who understand their experiences. Our programmes are designed to build their confidence and self-esteem, show them what they can achieve and build their drive and motivation. amelia@caretodance.co.uk






Centre for Young Lives

The Centre for Young Lives, founded by Anne Longfield CBE, is dedicated to improving the lives of children, young people, and families in the UK. Our focus spans from early intervention to empowering vulnerable youth. We address systemic issues, such as poverty, mental health, and education disparities, advocating for reform and a new social contract. Born from the Commission on Young Lives, we collaborate with like-minded organisations. info@centreforyounglives.org.uk

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	<p>CEO Sleepout UK</p> <p>CEO Sleepout is a national charity set up to inspire the business community to unite to fight homelessness; raising money for frontline services, helping to change lives. www.ceosleepout.co.uk</p>
	<p>Changing Minds Child & Family Services (CMCAFS)</p> <p>At CMCAFS, we aim to support people, organisations and wider systems collaboratively and compassionately through creative psychological practice. www.cmcafs.com/contact</p>
	<p>Children Heard and Seen</p> <p>Children Heard and Seen embraces a holistic, whole-family approach, extending support to those who care for the child while keeping the child at the centre of the support. www.childrenheardandseen.co.uk/about-us</p>
	<p>Comfort Cases UK</p> <p>Comfort Cases UK wants to show every child who enters and experiences care how amazing and treasured they are. We want every child and young person to have a Comfort Case. hello@comfortcasesuk.org</p>
	<p>Drive Forward Foundation</p> <p>Our mission is to enable care-experienced young people to achieve their full potential through sustainable and fulfilling employment. Our vision is a society where care-experienced young people enjoy opportunity, empathy and respect.</p>
<p>It is our aim to make a difference, regardless of background and circumstances, we're here to support our cohort in reaching their full potential and aspirations. anita@driveforwardfoundation.org</p>	
	<p>Essex County Council</p> <p>Essex County Council wants our children and young people in care to thrive and be treated with respect and compassion. We believe that providing the highest quality care and creating opportunities for them to have fun, try new experiences and build positive relationships with peers and trusted adults who they find inspirational and can relate to, can make a huge difference to their emotional and physical well-being. We are highly aspirational, we want our children in care to succeed and work alongside them to acknowledge their strengths, find purpose and support them to fulfil their aspirations and build new ones.</p>

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	Essex Cricket
	<p>Essex Police</p> <p>Essex Community Goals is a 7-a-side youth football tournament set up by Essex Police to engage with young people in the community bringing everyone together through the power of sport. It offers the opportunity to take part in a sporting event, especially to those who usually have limited access to such events. Boys, girls and mixed teams enjoy a day long event with teams paying a minimal fee all of which goes to charity. Every player gets food, a goody bag and takes home at least one medal whilst building positive relationships with the police. Last years charity was Fatima's Campaign.</p>
	<p>Frontline</p> <p>Helping to keep children free from harm and supporting them to achieve their full potential is at the heart of everything we do at Frontline.</p> <p>www.thefrontline.org.uk</p>
	<p>Greater London Scouts</p> <p>Scouts are do-ers and give-it-a-go-ers. Yes, we go camping, hiking, swimming, abseiling, cycling and canoeing. But, we also get to hang out with our friends every week – having fun, playing games, working in teams and taking on new challenges.</p> <p>Every week we give almost half a million 4-25 year olds the skills they need for school, college, university, the job interview, the important speech, the tricky challenge and the big dreams: the skills they need for life. Everyone's welcome, all genders, races and backgrounds.</p> <p>Regardless of your young person's physical ability – there's a Scout adventure out there waiting for them.</p> <p>david.liddle@southlondonscouts.org.uk</p>
	<p>Home Start</p> <p>Home-Start is a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support helping families with young children through their challenging times.</p> <p>We are there for parents when they need us the most because childhood can't wait.</p> <p>www.home-start.org.uk/about-us</p>
	<p>IFCO - International Foster Care Organisation</p> <p>For over 40 years, the International Foster Care Organisation (IFCO) has been dedicated to empowering family-based care for every child across the globe. Our mission is to promote quality lives for children and young people in foster and kinship care, support caregivers, and advocate for policies that</p>

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enhance family-based care worldwide.

As part of our commitment, IFCO hosts international conferences that bring together experts, caregivers, young people, and policymakers to drive meaningful change. Our next conference will take place in Glasgow in June 2025. For more information visit our website www.ifco.info or visit us in the Summit exhibition area. president@ifco.info

Rhian Wright - Illustrator



Books can speak to children in ways we sometimes can't, offering comfort, understanding, and hope. Rhian Wright, illustrator of Fatima Whitbread's debut children's picture book, My Bright Shining Star, is partnering with Pickled Pepper Books to bring a carefully curated selection of titles to the summit, exploring themes relevant to care-experienced children and young people. Attendees can browse these meaningful stories, with signed copies of My Bright Shining Star available to purchase or pre-order for collection at the event. rhian.wright42@gmail.com



John Lewis Partnership

The John Lewis Partnership has a purpose, "Working in Partnership for a Happier World". The Building Happier Futures programme sits at the heart of this purpose, aiming to harness the talents of care-experienced people. Ceira Thom, Head of Learning, Inclusion and Belonging and Anna Butcher, Care Experience Manager are looking forward to sharing more about the programme's focus on employability. anna.butcher@johnlewis.co.uk



Lambourne End Centre for Outdoor Learning

Lambourne End's primarily aims to improve young people's wellbeing and foster personal development through outdoor experiences that connect them to nature. Our unique blend of adventure, farming, and environmental activities create an environment where young people feel safe and thrive.

Activities build confidence, self-esteem, and trust in adults, while equipping participants with practical skills, enhancing employability. We prioritize senses of accomplishment, and motivate individuals to set and achieve positive goals. Programmes are designed to inspire positive choices and support the attainment of qualifications. liberty.wagner@lambourne-end.org.uk

Lovell

Met Police UK

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Mu Foundation

We use football to engage and inspire young people to build a better life for themselves and unite the communities in which they live. Dedicated staff deliver educational and community outreach programmes to help young people make positive choices in their lives.



Mulberry Bush Organisation

Since 1948 we have been helping traumatised children and those around them through the creation of therapeutic environments within which children can build healthy relationships, discover the benefits of education and start to rebuild their lives. referrals@mulberrybush.org.uk



Ministry of Defence

The Army offers young people a variety of outreach activities, including STEM, Command Tasks, Insight Days, Army Look at Life events. There is an opportunity to attend ceremonial events to learn more about the dual roles that some soldiers undertake.

As an employer we offer careers in over 200 roles including music, medical, driving, chefs, engineers to name but a few. alex.page232@mod.gov.uk



National Association of Virtual School Heads

The National Association of Virtual School Heads is a charity dedicated to improving the educational outcomes of looked after, previously looked after children, and care leavers.

Through research, partnerships, and training, we ensure better understanding and support for the education and care of these children, promoting their well-being and achievements. info@navsh.org.uk



National Child Mortality Database

The National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) national data collection and analysis system is the first of its kind anywhere in the world. It records comprehensive data, standardised across a whole country (England), on the circumstances of children's deaths.

The purpose of collating information nationally is to ensure that deaths are learned from, that learning is widely shared and that actions are taken, locally and nationally, to reduce the number of children who die.

The programme was established and is delivered by the University of Bristol, in collaboration with Anna Freud, UCLPartners and the software company QES. It also includes representation from bereaved families through the NCMD charity partners: Child Bereavement UK, The Lullaby Trust and Sands. The programme is funded by NHS

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England and commissioned by HQIP. sylvia.stoianova@bristol.ac.uk



NCDV (National Centre for Domestic Violence)

NCDV is a not-for-profit organisation which offers a free emergency injunction service to those at risk of domestic abuse and violence, regardless of their financial situation, ethnicity, gender or sexuality. There are many children and young people who have been placed in the care system as a result of domestic abuse between their parents. By law, children are victims of domestic abuse too, NCDV is just one of the useful tools in the toolkit of Early Prevention and more use of these tools could help stop children needing to enter the care system in the first place. sharon.bryan@ncdv.org.uk



North London NHS Foundation Trust & Mind in Enfield and Barnet

We are the North London NHS Foundation Trust (NLFT) providing high-quality mental health care to local people across the London Boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington. chris@chriscwild.com



Pen Green Children Centre

The Pen Green Centre for Children and Their Families opened in 1983. It was set up as a multifunctional service for children and families within the local community of Corby. The centre was staffed by a multi disciplinary team, including teachers, social workers, nursery nurses and health workers.

The vision and principles of the services offered to the community by the centre were conceptualised by local residents, local politicians, local authority officers and a newly appointed staff team. 'Their vision for the future, was that in this small community there should be a service for children aged under five and their families, a service which would honour the needs of young children and celebrate their existence. It would also support families however they were constituted within the community'







Pickled Pepper Books

Pickled Pepper Books is a specialist children's bookshop and events space in Crouch End, North London established by parents Steven Pryse and Urmi Merchant in 2012, providing a child centred, welcoming environment in which to experience the tactile nature of choosing books for and with kids. We also work with a wide variety of schools, organising author visits for all ages and supplying reading resources. education@pickledpepperbooks.co.uk

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	<p>Power2</p> <p>Power2 is a charity. We support children and young people to improve their wellbeing so they can thrive and reach their full potential. Our programmes help them develop crucial life skills, improve confidence and boost self-esteem through one-to-one support and group coaching. We take an asset-based, trauma-informed and trusted-adult approach to our work.</p> <p>Our work is evidence-based and delivered by highly-trained staff with lived experience. Our outcomes are excellent: 87% of participants improved their wellbeing, 82% improved their self-confidence, and 75% improved their engagement with school and learning. 99% would recommend our programmes to others.</p> <p>julie.randles@power2.org</p>
	<p>Quarto</p>
	<p>Rees Foundation</p> <p>Rees Foundation is a UK charity dedicated to supporting care leavers and care-experienced individuals beyond statutory support. Rooted in care leaver-led initiatives, the charity develops programs that directly address the challenges care leavers face, including housing instability, financial hardship, and social isolation. Through practical assistance, emotional support, and opportunities for growth, Rees Foundation empowers care leavers to build their futures.</p> <p>Its work spans housing, mentoring, financial aid, and employability initiatives—helping care leavers gain skills, access job opportunities, and build sustainable careers. By advocating for systemic change and long-term support, Rees Foundation fosters belonging, resilience, and a future where no care leaver is left behind.</p> <p>melody.douglas@reesfoundation.org</p>
	<p>Replenish Culture</p> <p>“Replenish Culture” is a co-production between a foster carer and a social worker. Co-production acknowledges that people with ‘lived experience’ of a particular condition are often best placed to advise on what support and services will make a positive difference to their lives.</p>
	<p>Royal Foundation</p> <p>The Royal Foundation mobilises leaders, businesses and people so that together we can address society's greatest challenges. Led by The Prince and Princess of Wales, our work is built on world-class research, long-term partnerships, and measurable, scalable impact.</p>
	<p>Royal SpringBoard</p>

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 <p>EATING DISORDER SUPPORT SERVICE</p>	<p>Seed</p> <p>SEED is a Voluntary Organisation. We formed in September 2000 in Hull, East Yorkshire, and were known as the Eating Disorder Support Group. gemma@seed.charity</p>
 <p>Salford Virtual School</p>	<p>Salford Virtual School</p> <p>Salford Virtual School is highly ambitious for our children in care. As corporate parents, we are driven by the question 'Would this be good enough for my child?' in the work that we do.</p> <p>We passionately believe that our cared for children deserve the best education possible, and advocate on their behalf to ensure that they have access to the best educational opportunities within a high quality educational setting.</p>
 <p>sister system</p>	<p>Sister System</p> <p>Sister System's mission is to bridge the gap between care-affected girls and mainstream society, by working alongside them to ensure they have the same opportunities everyone else has - at home, school, work and within our communities. involve@sistersystem.org</p>
 <p>SPECTRA</p>	<p>Spectra Connect</p> <p>Our roots are in supporting young people through 'restorative practice', which is about helping to build and maintain positive, healthy relationships, resolve difficulties and repair harm where there has been conflict. hello@spectraconnect.co.uk</p>
 <p>St Basils Works with young people</p>	<p>St Basils</p> <p>St Basils is both a Charity and a Housing Association with a track record of over 50 years of providing a holistic range of accommodation and support services to young people aged 16-25 who are homeless, vulnerable or at risk. info@stbasils.org.uk</p>

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Starz Fostering CIC

Starz is a Not-for-Profit Independent Fostering Agency who provide trauma-informed foster care arrangements for children and young people who are looked after. Starz is based in Emneth, Norfolk and the agency is owned by three Directors who themselves experienced traumatic childhoods. The Starz mission is to create a sense of 'family' in the development of our services, ensuring the foster carers and the children and young people in their care remain at the core of our provision. The Starz 'family' also encourage the children and young people to believe in themselves and ensure they have support available to help them achieve the best possible outcomes for their futures.

Starz pledge to offer support for the children and young people who have been permanently placed in long term foster care arrangements with their Starz foster carers, until they are 27 years old.
lisa.whiting@starzfosteringcic.co.uk



**Supported
Living
Property
Network**

Supported Living Property Network

Lisa set about discovering why property investors struggle to let their properties to supported living providers and why providers struggle to find property to let. She has been educating people, raising awareness and working on solutions to this problem ever since. Lisa is the host of the Supported Living Property Podcast and YouTube channel and is the founder of Supported Living Property Network.
hello@supportedlivingproperty.uk



SURESTAY GROUP

SureStay Group

SureStay Group is a property investment company dedicated to rehousing young families at risk of homelessness. Through the acquisition and refurbishment of apartment blocks, we provide safe, high-quality homes for families in need. Our mission is to create long-term housing solutions by working with social impact investors, local authorities, and landlords willing to support those in receipt of universal credit. By transforming underutilized properties, we not only offer stability to families but also contribute to community regeneration. mark@surestaygroup.co.uk



The Fostering Network

As the UK's leading fostering charity, we are the essential network for fostering and we bring together everyone who is involved in the lives of children in foster care.

We support foster carers to transform children's lives and we work with fostering services and the wider sector to develop and share best practice.

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The Halo Project

Our vision is to eliminate forced marriage, honour based violence and FGM within society. To change attitudes and beliefs for future generations to break the cycle of abuse and to empower victims to make their own choices
info@haloproject.org.uk



The JAM Foundation

The JAM Foundation is a fitting legacy to the late Janice Ann McNaughton, who dedicated her career as a social worker to help the most vulnerable. In collaboration with the University of Hertfordshire, The JAM Foundation provides bursaries and extensive personalised support for care leavers who aspire to qualify as social workers, nurses, midwives and paramedics. We recognise that such young people, drawing on their own experiences, will bring an invaluable level of empathy and credibility to these vocations. Janice was passionate about mentoring her younger colleagues through their careers. We hope the bursaries will be the next best thing!



The Promise

In 2020, following the conclusion of the Independent Care Review, Scotland made a promise that all children and young people would grow up loved, safe and respected. To help keep that promise by 2030, The Promise Scotland was established, to support those working in the care system to make the changes they need, and to monitor how and when change is happening.

It's work focusses on supporting those working in the 'care system' to deliver Plan 24-30, the route map to keeping the promise; ensuring political support remains; developing the Promise Story of Progress; and supporting the Oversight Board for the promise, and the Independent Strategic Advisor. fiona@thepromise.scot



The Social Work Way

Supporting children, families, and communities is at the heart of social work—The Social Work Way App is here to help you do it more effectively. Whether you need streamlined case management, digital referral tools, or resources to enhance professional practice, our app provides innovative social work solutions designed to simplify daily tasks and improve efficiency.

Built by social workers for social workers, The Social Work Way combines real-world experience with cutting-edge technology to address the unique challenges of the profession. From direct work tools and outcome tracking to job directories and well-being support, we offer

everything you need to stay organised, reduce admin stress, and focus on making an impact.
info@thesocialworkway.co.uk

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We Are Settle

Settle is an award-winning charity that supports care-experienced young people as they move into their first home so they can confidently transition into independent living and thrive. lisa.braden@wearesettle.org

Westham United



Why Care

Why Care is committed to ensuring every child in care has access to a stable, loving home by enhancing the recruitment, assessment, and support of foster carers. We collaborate with local authorities to deliver a more efficient, empathetic, and data-driven approach to fostering, integrating the insights of those with lived experience. Through innovative assessment techniques, comprehensive training, and ongoing mentorship, we not only improve carer retention but also create a more intuitive and effective system that better meets the needs of children and young people. niketasanderson@outlook.com



Young Minds

We provide young people with the tools to look after their mental health. We empower adults to be the best support they can be to the young people in their lives. And we give young people the space and confidence to get their voices heard and change the world we live in.

Together, we can create a world where no young person feels alone with their mental health. laura.bunt@youngminds.org.uk