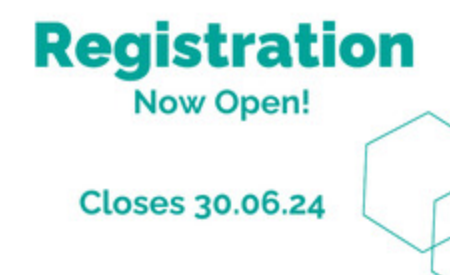
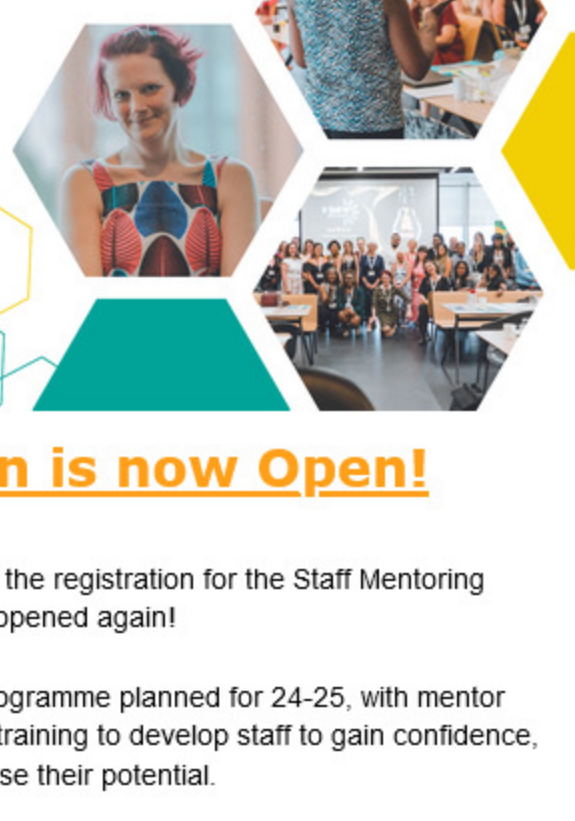


NEWSLETTER



Registration Now Open!

Closes 30.06.24



SMP Registration is now Open!

And just like that, we are back in May and the registration for the Staff Mentoring Programme has opened again!

Like all other years, we have an exciting programme planned for 24-25, with mentor matches, a series of webinars, and in-person training to develop staff to gain confidence, network, and maximise their potential.

The workshops travel through the mentee's personal strengths, drivers and values, look at how they react to the world and how the world reacts to them, and then how to deal with the challenge and opportunity of change. Finally, we help them prepare for the next steps in their career, with interview and application tips and tricks.

Throughout the year, they can attend our webinars, deepening their understanding of EDI issues alongside their knowledge of themselves and get a Strengthscope psychometric test to better understand their strengths.

Mentors are an essential part of the programme as well, and we welcome mentors from all our members and partners. We run training and action learning sets for mentors so they can develop their skills alongside giving back to the community and the next generation of leaders in the housing sector.

All participants get access to resources to support them with the programme and the conversations they will have.

If you want to know more about the SMP, visit <https://www.housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk/staff-mentoring-programme> or email mentoring@housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk

Webinar Throwback Thursday: Autism and Workplace Inclusion

We've had many excellent guest speakers on our webinars over the last few years, covering a myriad of fascinating topics related to equality, diversity and inclusion. We're putting a spotlight on some of these past webinars to make sure that our members continue to benefit from the valuable learning on these topics that they provide.



We thought now would be a good time to take a look back at our 2022 webinar with **Pete Wharmby**, which focussed on Autism and Neurodiversity in the Workplace. Pete, who in 2017 was diagnosed as autistic at the age of 34, gave us some incredibly informative insights on how people with autism might experience being in work differently to neurotypical people- as well as what organisations can do to ensure they are proactive in supporting people who may need adjustments to be happy and comfortable (as well as effective) in the workplace.

Key issues Pete discussed include the differences in sensory experiences for neurodivergent people and how this might affect them, the astoundingly low percentage of autistic people in employment (only around 22%) which inevitably means that low support-need autistic people are still being excluded from the workplace, and the benefits of employers actively outlining the possible adjustments they can offer to colleagues who are neurodiverse.

To summarise with a quote from Pete "It's just about reserving judgment, and to remember autism is such a wide and varied experience that you can't necessarily predict anything."

HDN members can watch the recording of this webinar, along with all our previous webinars, on the [HDN website](#).

Grab your laptops, join us in London, and prepare to Power UP your productivity!

We're pleased to partner with **Rohit Talwar**, CEO of Fast Future, to bring you a whole day of highly practical, interactive learning. Rohit will take you through how Generative AI can increase your personal productivity, aid organisational efficiency and innovation, and help you be more impactful with your time.



AI tools are evolving at an ever-faster pace, and changing how work gets done. Designed for senior leaders, executives and board members with little or limited experience using these tools, this workshop will offer hands-on experience, demonstrations, comparisons, and resources to help build your confidence and ensure you stay ahead of the curve.

Join us to:

- Enhance your personal effectiveness, efficiency, creativity, and impact.
- Use your time spent serving each board to maximum effect.
- Encourage your organisation to become highly proficient in their use of these tools to enhance performance across all their tasks.

Here's what a past participant had to say:
"You took a group of people who were there against their will and who pushed back on me about having this workshop, and got them engaged and intrigued. I loved the hands-on approach where people got to touch it, see it, play with it. That was perfect, don't change a thing there. You won over that group and that was a major success. So, nice work! And thank you. I am very grateful for you and for this."
- Mike Powers, CEO.

Don't miss this opportunity to elevate your skills and drive positive change in your organisation.

[Interested? Register here!](#)

Mental Health Awareness Month and the Journey to Well-being

May marks Mental Health Awareness Month, with this year's theme focusing on "Movement: Moving more for our mental health". Emphasising the importance of integrating movement into our daily routines to enhance mental well-being. The goal is to inspire individuals to participate in activities that not only energise their bodies but also stimulate their minds. Exercise has been proven to reduce anxiety and depression and helps prevent physical illnesses.



The number of workers reporting workplace stress and its adverse effects on mental health is steadily increasing. Unfortunately, societal stigma surrounding mental illness persists, discouraging many from seeking help or sharing their struggles openly. It's important that we collectively strive to dismantle these barriers and ensure that everyone feels supported and accepted.

Mental Health Awareness Month serves as a pivotal platform for promoting discussions on mental health, promoting understanding and empathy, and encouraging individuals to prioritise their mental well-being and seek help when needed. Through promoting open conversations and challenging misconceptions, we can create a more compassionate and supportive society for those facing mental health challenges.

In our debut episode of our third podcast series, we had the privilege of speaking to Andy Bampton from Andy's Man Club, to discuss the importance of mental health awareness. Andy shares his personal journey with mental health struggles and discusses the importance of creating safe spaces for men to open up about their emotions and experiences. From breaking down societal stigmas to offering practical advice for supporting mental well-being, this conversation sheds light on the critical role housing professionals can play in fostering mental health resilience within their organisations and communities. (Click the link below to tune in)

[Tune in now!](#)

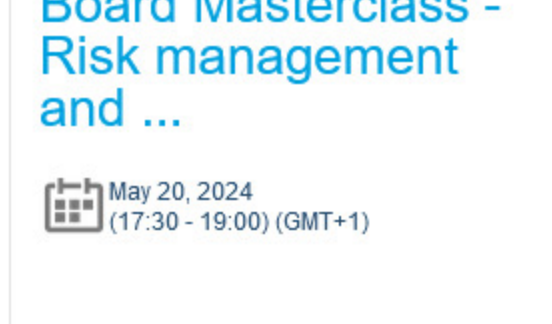
EVENTS



HDN & WISH Networking Event Birmingham

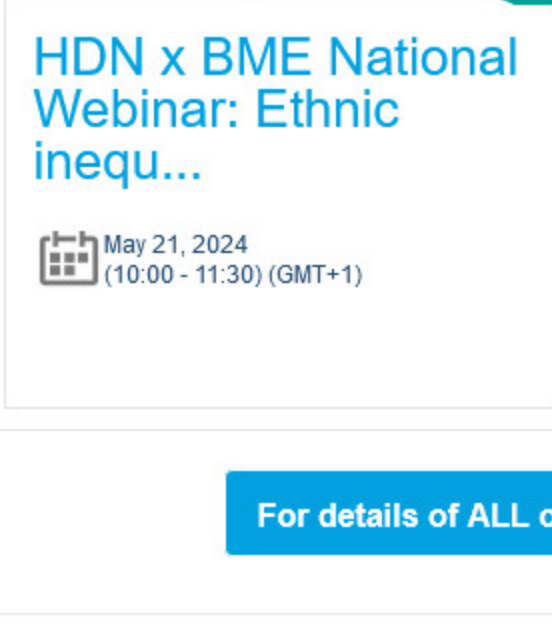
May 16, 2024
(17:00 - 20:00) (GMT+1)

Theatrix Birmingham
Birmingham, England



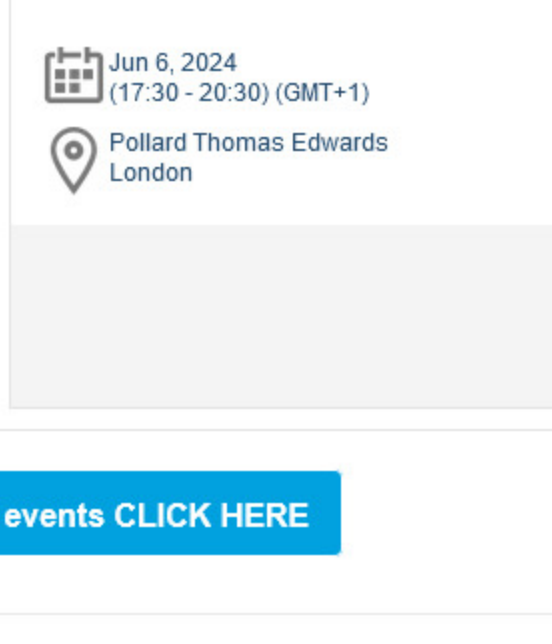
Board Masterclass - Risk management and assurance

May 20, 2024
(17:30 - 19:00) (GMT+1)



HDN x BME National Webinar: Ethnic inequality

May 21, 2024
(10:00 - 11:30) (GMT+1)



HDN & WISH Networking Event London

Jun 6, 2024
(17:30 - 20:30) (GMT+1)

Pollard Thomas Edwards
London

[For details of ALL our events CLICK HERE](#)

NOW HIRING

Chair of the Board - ODS Group



ODS Group are in search of a new Chair of the Board. You will need to demonstrate leadership qualities that prove you can successfully think and act commercially, to deliver social value across Oxford.

[Read More](#)

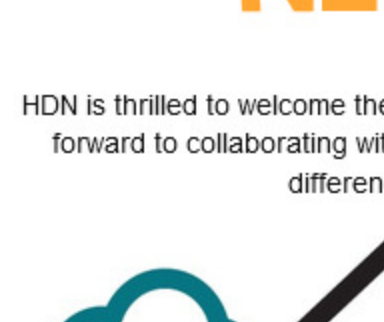
Director of Customer Services - Stockport Homes Group



Stockport Homes Group are on the lookout for someone to fill a wide-ranging role of Director of Customer Services. The role will lead all their customer service activity with a specific focus on customer access, neighbourhood management, engagement and feedback, homelessness and more.

[Read More](#)

Two Board Members - Connect Housing



Connect Housing is on the lookout for people to fill two board member vacancies. They are looking for people who align with their social purpose and values, aiming to diversify their current board to better represent their customer base.

[Read More](#)

Director of Property - Stockport Homes Group



Stockport Homes Group are on the lookout for someone to fill the role of Director of Property. The role's purpose is to lead all asset and property functions within their Group.

[Read More](#)

Chair of Audit and Risk Management Committee - Connect Housing



Connect Housing is looking for someone to fill the role of Chair of Audit and Risk Management Committee. The purpose of the role is to ensure there is an appropriate culture of control and business assurance throughout Connect.

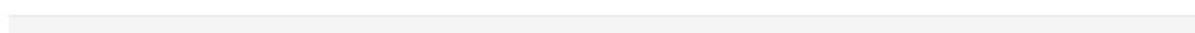
[Read More](#)

There are also other job vacancies viewable on our website, which you can view by clicking the button below.

[More Job Vacancies!](#)

NEW MEMBERS

HDN is thrilled to welcome these new organisations to our membership network. We look forward to collaborating with you to achieve our shared goals and making a positive difference within the Housing Sector together!



What We Do at HDN
Contact us to see if we can help

We work with organisations on a range of equality, diversity and inclusion issues. These include management and leadership training, staff mentoring, board and executive team discussions and reviewing and helping with equality, diversity and inclusion action plans and strategies.

[Contact us](#) for further details