

Leaders Plus



A career development programme
for senior managers and leaders in the built environment

SUPPORTED BY



About Future of London

Future of London helps build better cities through knowledge, networks and leadership – across disciplines, organisations and sectors. We are the capital’s independent not-for-profit network for regeneration, housing, infrastructure and economic development practitioners, with 4,000+ professionals using FoL as a hub for sector intelligence, connection and professional development, and a mandate to prepare the next wave of cross-sector city leaders.

For more information, visit futureoflondon.org.uk/leadership.

Our members



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Future of London is a company registered in England and Wales (No. 7575624)

About Leaders Plus

Designed for those already in leadership roles and experiencing increasing risk, responsibility and change, Leaders Plus provides resources, senior insight, a useful network and a chance to build confidence and stretch your comfort zone.

One of the keys to this course, carried on from the successful Future London Leaders format, is the mix of disciplines, organisations and boroughs represented. Alumni have told us how valuable this diverse peer-to-peer network is, and we see the results it can deliver in some of London's greatest recent successes.



Lyn Garner
Chair, Future of London
Chief Executive, London Legacy
Development Corporation



Nicola Mathers
Chief Executive, Future of London



Fol gave me the opportunity to stand back from day to day operations and review my style of creative leadership. We met experienced Senior leaders who talked about their journey which helped me to reflect on my own and how I can effectively stretch my influence. I really enjoyed the sessions on 'building your brand' and 'communication with the media'.

Vicky Joseph, Operations Manager, Notting Hill Genesis



How and why: learning outcomes

Leaders Plus is exclusive to FoL members. This nine-month programme equips candidates already in leadership roles to navigate increasing risk and responsibility, and to develop greater resilience. Candidates come from different disciplines and sectors, but all manage complex projects and/or organisational initiatives, and have had some leadership training.



The Leaders Plus field trips provide a unique opportunity to go behind the scenes and explore the challenges and opportunities at a very local level. This is really valuable as it's rare to get this kind of opportunity and for it to be delivered in a frank and transparent way.

**Gemma Bourne, General Manager - Sustainability,
Lendlease**

How do candidates learn?

- Executive-level leadership skills workshops
- Expert insight seminars including Managing Up, Meeting the Resourcing Challenge and Messaging & Media
- Field trips and workshops, based on current London issues
- Peer discussion and presentations
- Confidential mentoring, for advice and resources
- Structured reflection
- Structured and informal networking
- Priority access to all Future of London mainstream programming
- A final assignment which requires research, creativity, presentation skills – and a brave idea

What do graduates gain?

- An enhanced set of leadership skills designed to inspire teams, build trust and navigate complex situations
- The increased confidence and authority to influence others, tackle unexpected challenges and win over stakeholders at all levels
- Exposure to diverse perspectives, fresh approaches and practical tools that foster creative thinking
- A safe and supportive environment to test, develop and enhance ideas and skills
- Knowledge, insight and support from a diverse range of peers, other sector professionals and a personal mentor, all with a passion for and commitment to the future of London
- Immediate entry into the Alumni Network, with its events, resources and peer support

Building a pan-London network

All Leaders Plus graduates cite working with practitioners from different organisations as a major advantage of the course. Leaders Plus offers the chance to work through problems – of funding, perception, delivery and more – with professionals who bring other perspectives to bear.

Modules are run with a high degree of confidentiality, making this a safe space to discuss thorny questions. Leaders Plus candidates are also encouraged to network after the sessions and to sign up to Future of London's main events, offering more opportunities to broaden networks.

Alumni Network

The Leaders alumni network – combining Future London Leaders and Leaders Plus – now has more than 400 alumni working across London, with a further 65 graduates each year. We encourage graduates to get involved and attend our regular Alumni Network events to reconnect with their cohort and meet other alumni.



Leaders Plus not only provided opportunities to engage with and learn from a wider network of my peers, but an opportunity to

gain a different perspective on myself professionally, and the tools to utilise these insights. A fantastic course!

**Stephen Morris, Associate,
Pollard Thomas Edwards**



Experienced mentors and speakers

Mentoring plays an invaluable role throughout the course. Cross-sector mentors are carefully matched with Leaders Plus candidates to provide a 'safe space' sounding board and share experience and insights from their own careers.

For ongoing modules like leadership skills, we work with dedicated providers such as Urbancanda. For expert-led, topic-oriented sessions, we seek out experienced, innovative and straight-talking practitioners from the public and private sector.



Mentoring on the Leaders programmes is a real highlight of my work and I always look forward to it. Future of London brings together a fantastic range of talented, passionate and ambitious individuals from all sorts of backgrounds and organisations and it has been an inspiration to work one-to-one with many of them over the last few years.

David Lunts, Executive Director, GLA Housing & Land

Recent mentors and speakers have included:

- Andrew Beharrell, Senior Partner, Pollard Thomas Edwards
- Ishdeep Bawa, Director - Real Estate Finance, Avison Young
- Claire Bennie, Director, Municipal
- Kate Davies, Chief Executive, Notting Hill Genesis
- Kate Dodsworth, Chief Executive, Gateway Housing Association
- Andy Donald, Chief Executive, LB Redbridge
- Steve Douglas, Co-CEO, Altair Ltd & Founder, Leadership 2025
- Anna Faherty, Principal, Strategic Content
- Lyn Garner, Chief Executive, LLDC
- Claudette Forbes, Director, CAF Consulting
- Gerry Hughes, Principal & UK Managing Director, Avison Young
- Pat Hayes, Managing Director, Be First
- Clare Reddy, Partner & Head of Construction, Lewis Silkin LLP
- Joanna Rowelle, Director, Arup
- Alan Strickland, Director of External Affairs, Optivo
- Nicola Tilbury, Partner, Potter Raper Partnership
- Leanne Tritton, Managing Director, ING Media

How to apply

All Future of London member organisations are invited to nominate one person to one of our Leaders courses each year. This individual can be from regeneration, planning, housing, design, development or a multi-disciplinary background, with at least 10 years' experience in the sector. Nominating additional candidates may be possible; please contact us for details.

To fully benefit from the course, candidates should possess the following qualities:

- Commitment to personal development
- Potential for strategic-level leadership
- Some experience with multi-stakeholder projects
- Aspiration to improve their ability to manage risk
- A creative approach to problem-solving
- Some interest in the areas affecting regeneration, e.g. political context, investment, sustainability, design, community issues

To discuss the nomination process or any other aspect of the course, contact our Leaders Team.

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