

# Programme

## Council-Led Housing Forum

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### Background

Responding to housing need and market failure, local authorities have returned to developing and expanding their capacity to build new council housing. The Mayor's [Building Council Homes for Londoners](#) prospectus offers financial support to drive the delivery of this new era of council-led building, however there is a sector-wide shortage of skills, and a need to share knowledge and lessons learned.

The Future of London [Council-Led Housing Forum](#) provides, for council-led building practitioners, a platform for cross borough learning. Officers in delivery partnerships/special purpose vehicles, wholly owned companies and direct delivery Housing Revenue Accounts (HRA) teams are all welcome. The sessions themselves involve experts from pioneering boroughs, housing associations and consultancies sharing knowledge, skills and experience. The ultimate aim is to help build more quality homes for Londoners.

### Learning outcomes

Participants –

- increase their understanding of development risks and mitigations
- benefit from expert insight and best practice
- have the opportunity to share experience and lessons learned
- build their network across London
- have access to a resource of event content to use and share

### Sector outcomes:

Participants and their organisations –

- increase the skills and capabilities of borough delivery teams
- become more effective in sharing successful ideas and practices; have a better chance of avoiding pitfalls and repeat mistakes
- benefit from the promotion of housing delivery progress, successes and outcomes in the sector
- deliver quality homes more efficiently and effectively

### Core audience

The key audience is local authority development and regeneration teams delivering new council housing.

### Programme

The Forum is a three-year programme of monthly events. The second part the programme has been directly informed by the boroughs and their partners from across the capital.

Recognising that each borough differs in their structure and approach; the programme is designed to target development topics at a range of different levels. The target audience is advertised with each event.

Each session is distinct, highly practical and uses case studies and live examples. Delegates hear from respected experts and experienced practitioners. Each session includes the opportunity to apply learning and network.

### 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 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.

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## Programme

Here is the programme for the 12 month period starting from March 2020. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Development Management series will be delivered online as live webinars. Please visit our [events page](#) or join our [mailing list](#) to find out when registration for individual events opens.

**INTRA AND CROSS-AUTHORITY COLLABORATION:** for Members or officers, directing or supporting development delivery.

Political leadership	A cross party, cross borough briefing for portfolio holders on the opportunities and challenges to scale up council-led housing delivery.	3 Mar 2020 4 – 6.00pm
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**DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT:** for junior staff or those new to development in teams doing direct delivery of new council housing. Repeated due to popular demand.

Initial analysis & feasibility	Hear best practice approaches to first-stage site analysis, project feasibility and developing an outline business case	28 Apr 2020 9.30am – 11.00am
Project inception & planning	How to establish and manage an effective team and programme, design development and secure planning consent	26 May 2020 9.30am – 11.30am
Construction	Learn effective ways to manage construction from contracting through to design issues, budget management and stakeholder engagement	30 Jun 2020 9.30am – 11.30am
Handover & aftercare	How to prepare for a smooth handover including allocations and nominations, ongoing maintenance and good customer service	21 Jul 2020 9.30am – 11.30am

**TOPIC-SPECIFIC SESSIONS:** for heads of service, team leaders and development managers.

Community engagement	Learn how to develop effective consultation strategies, plan for resident ballots and win resident support (repeat)	22 Sept 2020 9.30am – 12pm
Managing the design process	Find out how to effectively project manage the design process, ensuring issues such as fire risk and the climate emergency are adequately considered	20 Oct 2020 9.30am – 12pm
Sales and Marketing	Find out how this function is being delivered successfully on council-led mixed tenure developments and explore the range of options available	24 Nov 2020 9.30am – 12pm

**SPECIALIST SESSIONS:** for directors, heads of service or team leaders with responsibility for specialist functions in development delivery teams

Delivering Programmes	Learn how programme management is being delivered for new council-house building. What are the key indicators and what tools are being used to monitor?	26 Jan 2021 9.30am – 12pm
Commercial skills	Learn how to act commercially in a local authority, work with private sector partners and resolve disputes	23 Feb 2021 9.30am – 12pm
Procurement	A joint session with both development and procurement colleagues to explore the options for new-build delivery.	30 Mar 2021 9.30am – 12pm