



# Future Leaders Network

Senior Managers & Aspiring  
Directors/Chief Executives

Shaping the next generation of  
local government leadership

**Date:** Thursday 26 March 2026

**Time:** 15:00 – 16:00

**Format:** Virtual

# West Midlands Employers (WME), working in partnership with Solace, is launching a **Future Leaders Network** for Senior Managers and aspiring Directors / Chief Executives across the region.

This new forum will provide a **safe, supportive peer network** for future senior leaders - creating space to share experience, explore career pathways, and discuss the real challenges of leadership in today's complex public sector environment.

## AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

### Welcome & Setting the Scene



**Rebecca Davis**,  
CEO, West Midlands  
Employers



**Jessica Mullinger**,  
Executive Director,  
Sector Support, Solace



**Dave Heywood**,  
Guest CEO,  
South Staffordshire Council

### Local Government in 2026 and Beyond

Reflections on leadership in a changing landscape

### Guest Speaker Session

With senior leaders sharing practical insights from their career journeys, including learning from challenge, progression and personal development

### Co-production Discussion

Your opportunity to influence how this network evolves

## What to expect

This session will be a co-production workshop, together we'll explore:

- ✓ **What aspiring leaders want from a Future Leaders Network**
- ✓ **Preferred formats (virtual / in-person / hybrid)**
- ✓ **Frequency and types of engagement**
- ✓ **Priority development themes for 2026–27**

Your views will directly shape the future design of the network.

## Why join?

Local government is entering a period of significant change — organisational transformation, financial pressures, AI acceleration and system reform are reshaping leadership expectations.

This network aims to provide:

- Peer connection and sector insight
- Career inspiration and practical leadership learning
- A trusted space to reflect, challenge and grow
- Direct engagement with regional sector leaders

All great leaders have a strong network — this could be yours.

## Who should attend

Senior Managers and aspiring Directors / Chief Executives across local government.

Please forward this invitation to colleagues in your organisation who would benefit as part of their leadership development.



**CLICK HERE**  
**to register**