

Homelessness and Housing Gathering

8th May 2024

On Zoom

Join the call and bring your own coffee/ tea
10.30

Why should the Methodist Church help tackle the Housing and Homelessness Crisis 10.30

Welcome and overview of the day with Opening Devotions

Revd. Ian Rutherford

Keynote – Jon Kuhrt (CEO of Hope into Action)

Case study York Circuit –How the circuit is raising awareness amongst its churches of homelessness and working with a homelessness charity to use York Central MC as a resource centre

How can we deliver truly affordable and supported housing 10.50

Resonance – Daniel Brewer (CEO) will provide an overview of the work of Resonance in relation to housing and the use of Social Investment

Homes England - Miranda Foster (Head of Affordable Housing) will explain how Homes England can give advice to churches on enabling affordable housing.

How churches can work with local authorities

James Walker (Greater Manchester Combined Authority) and Jon Hyde (West Midlands Combined Authority) will share their experiences of collaboration and co-operation.

How churches can work with housing associations

Bonnie Williams, the new CEO of Housing Justice will explore what can be achieved by partnership working with housing associations using the experience of Housing Justice's work in Wales.

Q&A facilitated by Ian Rutherford

Screen break and another drink
11.35

What has the Methodist Church done so far ?
11.45

Case studies of Methodist buildings being used for housing

Beki Winter from Housing Justice and Bill Bewley, the Chair of Keswick Community Housing Trust will tell the story of how Keswick Methodist Church was used for affordable Housing. Beki will also introduce other examples of where a new Church building was built alongside affordable housing.

Rev George Bailey from Leeds (North& East) circuit will tell how a disused Methodist church in Gipton is being used a night shelter for asylum seekers.

Q&A facilitated by Ian Rutherford

What could our next steps be as a church to tackle the housing and homelessness crisis in our own areas?
12.15

An interactive session in breakouts on what the next steps could be to tackle the housing and homelessness crisis in our own areas

Feedback and looking ahead
12.40

Open questions and comments facilitated by Ian Rutherford

Closing Prayers
12.55