



Delegate pack

APSE (Southern) Building Resilient Housing Services Seminar 2026



Thursday 22 October 2026

Contents

- ❖ Seminar programme overview
- ❖ Speaker biographies
- ❖ APSE information



Programme

09.30: Registration and Coffee

10.00: Session One

Welcome from the Chair

Delivering Resilient Housing Services.

- How Southampton City Council is preparing housing services for Local Government Reorganisation.
- Delivering high-quality resident services while responding to rising housing demand and homelessness.
- Developing partnerships to increase affordable housing and make better use of existing housing stock.
- Lessons learned in leading service transformation while maintaining a strong focus on residents and communities.

Speaker: Jamie Brenchley, Director of Housing Resident Services, Southampton City Council

Portsmouth City Council's approach to early intervention and homelessness prevention.

- Reducing reliance on temporary accommodation through partnership working and innovative support services.
- Lessons learned from tackling rising housing need and supporting vulnerable households in a challenging financial environment.
- Practical advice for councils looking to strengthen homelessness prevention services and improve outcomes for residents.

Speaker: Cllr Darren Sanders Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Tackling Homelessness, Portsmouth City Council

How Havant Borough Council is responding to increasing housing demand and supporting residents facing homelessness.

- The council's approach to homelessness prevention, early intervention and partnership working.
- Delivering effective housing services in a challenging financial and policy environment.
- Lessons learned and practical approaches that can help councils strengthen housing support and improve outcomes for local communities.

Speaker: Cllr Amy Redsull, Cabinet Lead for Housing, Havant Borough Council

Audience question and answer session

11:15: Virtual coffee break

11:30: Session Two

Working Across Boundaries to Tackle Homelessness.

- How Test Valley Borough Council works with housing associations, health partners, neighbouring authorities and the voluntary sector to prevent homelessness and support vulnerable residents.
- Delivering early intervention and homelessness prevention services that reduce the need for temporary accommodation and improve long-term outcomes.
- Building resilient housing services that respond to increasing demand while maintaining a customer-focused approach.
- Lessons learned from partnership working and practical examples that other local authorities can apply within their own homelessness services.

Speaker: Samantha Hall, Director of Housing and Environmental Health, Test Valley Borough Council

Building a Single Housing Service Following Local Government Reorganisation.

- Leading the integration of housing services following Local Government Reorganisation.
- Harmonising operational processes, policies and customer services across a new unitary authority.
- Maintaining high-quality frontline housing services while delivering organisational change.
- Lessons learned from service transformation, regulatory success and preparing for future housing challenges.

Speaker: Kelly Deane, Director of Housing and Public Protection, BCP Council

Planning for Growth: Delivering New Homes and Sustainable Communities.

- Eastleigh Borough Council's approach to delivering housing growth through its adopted Local Plan.
- Balancing housing delivery with infrastructure, transport, environmental protection and place-making.
- Working with developers, statutory partners and local communities to deliver sustainable growth.
- Lessons learned that can help other councils plan for future housing demand and Local Government Reorganisation.

Speaker: Cllr Keith House, Leader, Eastleigh Borough Council

Audience question and answer session

12:45: Networking Lunch

13:30: Seminar close



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES – APSE Southern Building Resilient Housing Services Seminar – 22 October 2026



Cllr Simon Letts, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Southampton City Council, and Seminar Chair

Councillor Simon Letts is currently Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Finance at Southampton City Council. He has over twenty years' experience, as a Councillor having previously lead the council between 2013 and 2018. His interests include financial sustainability, and governance, as well as how local government can be an effective partner in driving Economic growth including new housing. His professional life has been in the Education field. Currently he works part time at the University of Southampton.



Jamie Brenchley, Director of Housing Resident Services, Southampton City Council

Jamie Brenchley, MBE, is Director of Housing at Southampton City Council and an experienced strategic leader across housing and social care. Compassionate and purpose-led, Jamie believes housing is the foundation for safety, dignity and opportunity. They have a strong track record of leading change, transforming services and developing innovative responses to complex housing challenges.

Throughout his career, Jamie has championed ambitious, inclusive and sustainable transformation, connecting housing with wider social priorities. Their experience spans housing management, policy development, homelessness, supported housing and community engagement, with a consistent focus on turning strategy into meaningful, lasting improvement.

Jamie combines strategic clarity with compassionate leadership, creating the conditions for people, partnerships and new ideas to thrive. A strong advocate for social equity, they ensure residents' voices and lived experience shape decisions, service design and innovation. Jamie brings energy, collaboration and a clear sense of purpose to driving positive change across the housing sector.



Cllr Darren Sanders, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Housing & Tackling Homelessness, Portsmouth City Council

Darren Sanders is the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Tackling Homelessness on Portsmouth City Council. He spent eight years as a councillor in Lambeth, South London, including two years as the councillor overseeing community safety, helping cut crime by a quarter in that period. He was first elected to Portsmouth in 2012.

As the councillor overseeing tackling homelessness, he has helped set up a 100-bed pathway for rough sleepers, established a £100m allocation that has seen more than 700 'right-to-buy' homes brought back under council control and approved a further £31m to buy 200 homes which has halved the council's budget gap. He is currently working on the city's response to the Prime Minister's request for councils to provide a route to get rough sleepers off the streets by Christmas.



Cllr Amy Redsull, Cabinet Lead for Housing, Havant Borough Council

Amy is a passionate and dedicated housing professional whose career reflects a deep commitment to learning and meaningful connections.

Born and raised in Leigh Park, Havant, she grew up within a strong and supportive community, this is something that she appreciates now more than ever. The core values she grew up around, collaboration and supporting, have shaped her personal and professional life.

Over the years, Amy has built a reputation for thoughtful problem-solving, clear communication, and a steady willingness to take on new challenges.

In what little free time she has outside of her day job and councillor responsibilities, she follows Portsmouth Football Club, Havant and Waterlooville Football Club and enjoys spending time with her family (especially her husband and dog).



Samantha Hall, Director of Housing & Environmental Health, Test Valley Borough Council



Kelly Deane, Director of Housing & Public Protection, BCP Council

Kelly Deane is Director of Housing and Public Protection at BCP Council, with over 30 years' experience in local government. She leads a broad portfolio spanning housing, homelessness, public protection and community safety and has led a significant transformation of the council's housing services, culminating in a C1 rating from the Regulator of Social Housing in January 2026. Kelly is a member of the Association of Directors of Housing Leadership Board and a regular speaker at national housing events, with a particular interest in housing regulation, transformation, homelessness and the role of housing in improving wider health and social care outcomes. In 2026, Kelly was named

Woman of the Year – Wider Sector at the Inside Housing Women in Housing Awards.



Cllr Keith House, Leader of Eastleigh Borough Council

Cllr Keith House is a leading local government practitioner, writer and advocate on housing delivery, planning and leadership.

He has been Liberal Democrat Leader of Eastleigh Borough Council since 1994 and is Opposition Leader at Hampshire County Council. Keith is a Director of the LGA, Deputy Chair of the LGA Resources Committee, a board member at Public Sector Audit Appointments and former board member at Homes England and SEEDA.

In 2014, Keith co-led the national “Elphicke-House” Review on local authorities’ role in increasing housing supply for Treasury and MHCLG.

He subsequently jointly launched the Housing & Finance Institute and is its Senior Independent Director.

A Town councillor and honorary RTPI member, Keith is a trustee of the Leadership Centre. He has extensive experience supporting emerging democracies as a trainer and election observer, across Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Africa and writes on leadership, housing, local government and world travel.

Our free services included in the membership

Network Queries

APSE Network Queries offers members the opportunity to ask questions, share advice and receive information from peers in local councils across the UK.

Briefing Service

APSE Briefings provide members with expert briefings on policies, consultations, legislation, surveys and State of the Market reports.

Advocacy Service

APSE Advocacy ensures our members are represented in a variety of key policy and legislative developments.

Network Groups

APSE Networks offer members the opportunity to share best practice with local authorities through our informal network meetings.

Regional Events

APSE Events offer members the opportunity to attend regional events, meetings and networking opportunities throughout the UK.

Sector News

APSE Sector News provides members with the latest news and local government updates covering our service areas.

Your one stop shop for the frontline...



Armed Forces and Veterans



Building, Cleaning and Facilities Management



Cemeteries and Crematoria



Climate Change and Renewable Energy



Education Catering



Highways, Street Lighting and Winter Maintenance



Fleet, Transport and Vehicle Maintenance



Housing, Construction and Building Maintenance



Social Value, Procurement and Commercialisation



Parks, Horticulture and Grounds Maintenance



Recycling, Waste and Street Cleansing



Sports and Leisure Management

Member discounts on our traded services

Being a member will allow you to save



APSE Training

APSE Training provides members with access to specialist training courses designed to support the delivery of high-quality services.



APSE Solutions

APSE Solutions provides in-house consultancy services and interim management through our network of APSE associates.



APSE Energy

APSE Energy provides local authorities with the opportunity to share information, ideas, resources and best practice to support local energy projects.



APSE Performance Networks

APSE Performance Networks provides members with access to the largest voluntary public sector benchmarking service in the UK.