



Community Cohesion: Cultivating Shared Learning



Holy Trinity Church, Boar lane, Leeds, LS1 6HW



9.30 - 15.00



March 19, 2026



9.30 - 10.00 Arrival, Registration and Networking

10.00-10.05 Housekeeping and Introductions - Amanda Potter



10.05-10.25 Graham Helm

Graham has many years experience of operating in the youth work field, particularly with StreetGames and currently Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit. He will explore current policy and Theory of Change, articulating the contribution sport can produce in positive outcomes in the context of safer communities.

10.25-10.30 Karl Oxford

Karl has extensive experience in community regeneration, with a strong background in supporting and promoting Black and minority owned enterprises and the VCSE. Notably, co-designing and managing a strategic programme of community engagement and cohesion activities across Yorkshire and the Humber following the 2001 riots.

10.30-10.45 Joe Montgomery

With over 35 years of senior leadership experience across the public, private and nonprofit sectors, Joe has worked extensively in regeneration, the built environment and economic development, leading work on Inner City Task Force, City Challenge and the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal.

10.45-11.00 Julie Senior & Simon Jones

Julie & Simon from the Community Cohesion Unit at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government will update on government policy and their work on community cohesion, including the interaction with other policy areas such as, Pride in Place.

11.00 - 11.10 Independent Commission on Community Cohesion

An update on the current work of the ICCC, a non-partisan, time-limited initiative examining the growing crises of social disconnection and division in the UK.

11.10-11.30 Comfort Break

11.30-11.45 Ben Fraser and Sam Gilmore

Champions CiC is a youth and community project that uses football to engage 5–21-year-olds in Beeston, many of whom are 1st generation immigrants and refugees from African countries.



11.45 - 12.00 Jody Ivel

Stepping Up is an early intervention project using the power of sport, physical activity and mentoring to support children and young people who are beginning to show signs of risky or challenging behaviour.

12.00 - 12.15 Ali Crompton

Alistair is Head of Community Engagement at Half Acres, an area known as 'The forgotten estate' in Castleford. Hear how he works in partnership to deliver ongoing positive change.

12.15-12.20 summing up/afternoon intro



12.20 - 13.20 Lunch and networking



13.20 - 13.40 Ian Hepplewhite - Sport & Connection Energiser

13.40 - 14.40 Group Chat

Time to reflect on today's discussions and presentations.

14.40 - 14.55 Feedback on key points of discussion

14.55 - 15.00 Summary - David Gent

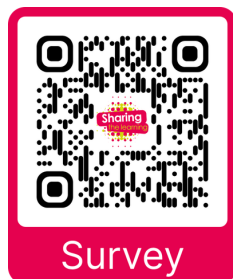


15.00 - Close



Quiz

Quiz
Join in! Share the Learning - Community Cohesion quiz



Survey

Power of Sport Survey
Please complete if you are involved or have knowledge about a project or programme whereby sport is being used to benefit community cohesion



Feedback

Feedback
Have your say on today's session.