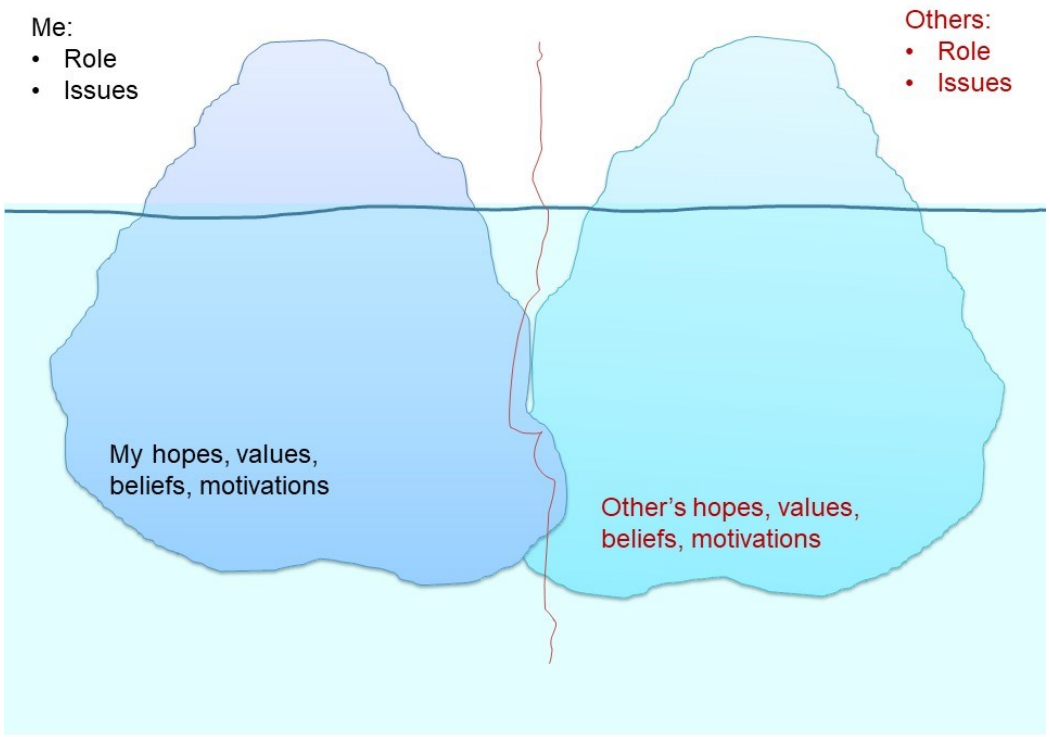
"I can make a difference"



The Harlow Poverty Alliance is a broad network of voluntary and statutory agencies working in Harlow. Partners range from representatives of Essex County and Harlow Councils to small charities and community groups. We gather around the same aims: to help reduce local poverty and support those affected by it. We work collaboratively and without political bias.

Would you like to join us? We usually meet once a month on Zoom. Typically we have a short agenda followed by information sharing & updates from all partners.

We are open to voluntary and statutory groups plus businesses and other interested parties who have a policy to support those affected by poverty.

Please contact our chair if interested: **andythornton@mrct.org.uk 01279 724515**

Conference Report

Following this event we plan to produce a report which will contain a record of the discussions and responses. We will also send you the presentation slides. This will be emailed to you using the registration email. Please let us know if you do not want to receive this.

We warmly thank Harlow Playhouse for their support in hosting this conference.

HARLOW POVERTY ALLIANCE

Conference Guide



June 23 2023
9am - 4pm

Stuck in debt...
Stuck at home...
Stuck without food…
Stuck without a voice...
Stuck without support...
Stuck without heating...
Stuck waiting for a house...
Stuck on the edge of town...
Stuck living with mould and damp...
Stuck waiting for an appointment…
Stuck for someone to listen…
Stuck without a future…
Stuck in my own world...

Harlow Playhouse

PARTNERS: Active Essex • Barnardos • Changing Lives • Citizens Advice Harlow • Community Embrace • DWP Harlow • Essex County Council • Harlow Council • Harlow Education Consortium • Harlow Ethnic Minority Umbrella • Harlow Holiday Lunch Clubs • Harlowsave Credit Union • Harlow Advice Centre • Herts & West Essex Integrated Care Board • Integration Support Services • Herts and Essex Community Farm • Michael Roberts Charitable Trust • Mind in West Essex • Phoenix Resource Centre • Poverty Pound • Rainbow Services • Red Balloon Foundation • Roots to Wellbeing • Smart Advice • Streets2Homes *and you?*

Who is presenting today? (in order of appearance)

LAUNCH	**Andy Thornton**	Chair of the Alliance, CEO of Michael Roberts Charitable Trust *(MRCT: Harlow Foodbank, Bump to Five, Bounty Club, Maybury Open Door)*
	Fabrizio Ferrari & Wendy Cockbill	Public Health Improvement Officer & Senior Community Engagement Officer, Epping Forest District Council
SESSION 1	**Ayub Khan**	CEO - Harlow Citizens Advice
	Kerrie Eastman	CEO - Streets2Homes
	Anna Savchenko	Service User - Harlow Holiday Lunch Clubs
	Kylie Brown	Work Coach Team Leader - Harlow Job Centre
	Cllr David Carter	Deputy Leader Harlow Council, newly appointed Portfolio Holder for Housing
SESSION 2	**Ian Tompkins**	Programme Director Levelling Up and Partnerships - West Essex Health & Care Partnership together with Essex County Council
	Robin Harbord	Acting Strategy and Development Lead, Education Directorate - Essex County Council
SESSION 3	**Sharon Summerfield**	CEO - Rainbow Services, Harlow
	Kate Greer	Project Lead - Harlow Community Hub
	Patrick Coppeard	General Manager - Harlow Foodbank and Bounty Club (MRCT)
	Emma Batrick	Changing Minds Campaign Manager - Harlow Foodbank (MRCT)
	Marina Dunajeva	Chief Executive Officer / Operations Manager - Integration Support Services - Harlow
SESSION 4	**Fiona Bailey**	Lead for Partnership Delivery - West quadrant Children & Families Essex County Council
	Rachel Lewis	Relationship Manager, West Essex - Active Essex
	Norma Gordon	Disability Employment Adviser - Harlow Job Centre
	Gary Taylor	Business Development Lead - Adult Education, Employability, Innovation & Skills Academy - Harlow College

Time	Choices	
9.00 – 9.30	+ Agency Fair (pop-up stalls in Mezzanine)	
9.30 – 10.30	**Welcome & Launch – Theatre 2** The shape of the day, outline of sessions. Summary of the past year's work, getting the best from today's event. Tackling poverty as a community: a profile of recent work in Ninefields - Epping Forest. "I can make a difference" personal reflection activity. Introducing 3 respondents who will give their thoughts at the day's close.	
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break Agency Fair Mezzanine	
11.00 – 11.45 choose 1 out of 2 options	**Session 1 - *Housing in Harlow*** **Theatre 2** *After a shocking year - what can stop the rise of homelessness and the poorest coming out worst?*	**Session 2 - *Health Inequalities and poverty* – Mezzanine** *How can the community tackle the disparities in health caused by poverty. Old problems / new initiatives?*
11.45 – 12:30	Discussion 1	Discussion 2
12.30-13.00	Lunch – Studio 1 (ground floor) Agency Fair Mezzanine	
13.00 – 13.45 choose 1 out of 2 options	**Session 3 - *Food shortage is the tip of the iceberg - what lies beneath?*** **Theatre 2** *How can we move on from relieving the effects of poverty to enrolling everyone into the solutions?*	**Session 4 - *Is money the only answer to poverty?*** **Mezzanine** *Money helps us afford things. Without it talent, and lives can be wasted... How do we stop the increasing disparity (without printing money?)*
13.45-14:30	Discussion 3	Discussion 4
14:30-14:45	Coffee break Agency Fair Mezzanine	
14:45-16.00	**Feedback from 4 Discussions Theatre 2** Reflections from today's respondents Summary and close	