

Empty Homes Conference 2018

Our speakers



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Property Guardian Providers Association

Promoting Best Practice, Safety and Standards



Empty Homes Officer
Reading Borough Council
Chair of Empty Homes Network

Conference Chair

&

Engaging the bad, mad and sad:
Helping the hard-to-engage owner

Nick Pritchard-Gordon

Nick has spent the last decade in Reading Council's Environmental Health team dealing with empty homes, home improvement loans, self-neglect and rats, rats, rats. The latest fads in his very mixed bag include recovering aged Social Care debts and putting the service users first in the Public Health Funeral process. A Gemini with an agricultural background, Nick's proudest possession is his 1997 Chartermark pledge-pin. He most recent gig was Flight Brigade and his next is The The. Nick dreams of becoming a director of hindsight..



Managing Director
Ad hoc Property Management

Building a professional industry
Introducing the Property Guardian
Providers Association

Simon Finneran

Simon Finneran is Managing Director of Ad Hoc Property Management. Founded over 20 years ago in the Netherlands and coming to the UK in 2006, Ad Hoc provides alternative security solutions to over 80 local authorities across the UK. Since joining the company in 2014, Simon has been at the forefront of pushing through increased best practice standards across the organisation throughout the UK, Scotland and Wales. Previously he worked for the global office space company, Regus.



Secretary
Property Guardian Providers
Association

Building a professional industry
Introducing the Property Guardian
Providers Association

Graham Sievers

Graham Sievers provides secretariat support for the newly-formed Property Guardian Providers Association, having supported property and facility management companies with their business profiles for 10 years. Prior to that he was the Business Development Director for Alere Healthcare UK, now Abbott, the global health company, Programme Director for the educational charity Common Purpose, and Head of Group for British Telecom. He is a director of the PR company, Knole Park Ltd.



Our speakers (continued)

Housing Co-ordinator
Liverpool City Council

Behind the scenes
Liverpool's '£1 house' scheme

Director
Action on Empty Homes

Renewing the partnership
The Empty Homes' dialogue with practitioners

Professional Support Lawyer
nplaw

GDPR: through the jungle
What does it really mean for empty homes work?

&

Legal update
The latest on CPO...and more

Project Manage: Community-based approaches
Action on Empty Homes

Community-based initiatives
Six demonstration projects reviewed

Director: Housing Training and Law Consultancy Ltd.
Consultant: Kent County Council & Welsh government

Practitioner Surgery
Enforcement, loans, grants...and more

Tony Mousdale

Tony has worked in Housing for over 30 years having started at the local council in his home town of St Helens. Since then he has worked in a number of authorities in the North West of England including Wirral, Warrington, Salford and Ellesmere Port and Neston. He has extensive experience in housing management, homelessness and strategic approaches to housing renewal. In 2009 he joined Strategic Housing at Liverpool City Council. He is currently leading on empty homes programmes and a number of initiatives relating to the private rented sector. Some of these such as the 'Homes for a Pound' scheme and Citywide Landlord Licensing have attracted national attention.



Will McMahon

Will McMahon is the new Director of Action on Empty Homes (formerly the Empty Homes Agency). Will has a social policy, campaigning and parliamentary background, having previously worked at the Child Poverty Action Group, the National Children's Bureau, Centre for Crime and Justice Studies and as a parliamentary researcher. Will is also currently leading the Community Plan for Holloway, a project that aims to put the local community at the heart of redevelopment plans for the former women's prison in North London.



Fiona Anthony

Fiona is a solicitor and a qualified teacher who joined nplaw in July 2015 as a Professional Support Lawyer, undertaking research and training in different areas of law.

Over the last two years, Fiona has developed expertise in compulsory purchase, streamlining nplaw's processes, producing guidance notes and keeping lawyers and clients up-to-date with the law.

Fiona prepares and delivers training in this area across the country. She has recently produced training materials for CILEx Law School on "Compulsory Purchase Policy and Procedure" and "Compulsory Purchase Compensation and Valuation".



Brigid Carey

Brigid joined Empty Homes in May 2016 to help deliver a project which focuses on bringing empty homes into use in through community-led regeneration strategies and wider local economic regeneration. Most recently a senior manager with Shropshire Council, Brigid has a very broad range of experience in many aspects of housing and strategic development. She is committed to supporting community-led solutions, community enterprise and self-help initiatives. Brigid believes creative partnerships are central to the effective investment of resources and the achievement of sustainable local change.



Andrew Lavender

Working as a trainer and consultant across many different authorities Andrew has developed an exceptional level of skill and knowledge about how to tackle empty homes, with a specialism in enforcement. Previously, employed by the Welsh Government in the development of their national loan scheme, he is also well-known for his role as lead consultant for the 12 authorities involved in the Kent No Use Empty initiative.

Andrew is a Director of Housing Training and Law Consultancy Ltd. and is a professional member of the West Midlands Residential Property Tribunal.



Our speakers (continued)

Empty Property Officer
Croydon Council

Building an empty property service

Four years on

Francis Burton

Francis worked for almost 30 years in Financial Services before switching from a profit driven role to a housing driven role at Croydon Council. He considers himself as a poacher turned gamekeeper, bringing a private sector brain to the public sector environment — and it has not always been easy! When Francis joined Croydon in 2010 empty properties were dealt with by Environmental Health officers on an ad hoc basis: Francis was charged with setting up a dedicated empty property service. He described the challenges faced and successes achieved when he spoke at our 2014 Conference in. He continues today with a summary of the progress made and the lessons learned in the last four and a half years.



Managing Director
Blackpool Housing Company Ltd

A commercial edge

A new vehicle to tackle housing standards and empty property

David Galvin

David has a strong background in regeneration and housing, grounded in the large scale public and private sector investment programmes in Manchester, Trafford and Salford and through working with various housing stock transfer organisations. Having established a successful career over 28 years, David was appointed to lead Blackpool Housing Company Ltd in autumn 2015, bringing with him the social values and commercial edge needed for the challenge of taking an exciting regeneration concept into a commercial reality. Known for his collaborative style and 'get things done' approach, he has successfully established the Housing Company model, finding solutions to balance the commercial needs of the business with clear regeneration and social objectives.



Loans Adviser
Wessex Resolutions CIC

Flexible Finance

Council subsidised loans for empty homes

Ellie Lister

Ellie Lister is the Devon Loans Adviser for Wessex Resolutions CIC, a community lender working in partnership with 20 local authorities across the South West. Ellie began her journey with Wessex Resolutions nearly six years ago as a marketing assistant and enjoyed expanding her experience of the lending industry from a not-for-profit perspective to develop into a loans adviser. Having grown up in Devon, she enjoys travelling across the county daily to meet a wide variety of people, which means no two clients or situations are the same. Ellie advocates a continual improvement approach to the loan schemes on offer to benefit homeowners, empty properties owners, landlords and ultimately local authorities.



Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Action Homeless

Community solutions to homelessness

An exemplary initiative from Leicester

Reg Mawdsley

Reg Mawdsley is a qualified accountant with many years-experience at Board level, working with companies of different sizes and cultures, in different parts of the UK and overseas. In addition he has several years-experience working in the voluntary sector. His experience includes all aspects of governance and financial management including estates management. He joined Action Homeless in 2013 and during this time he led the team that has overseen 23 empty properties being brought back into use in Leicester, thanks to support from Leicester City Council and funding from DCLG, the Nationwide Foundation and Charity Bank.



Campaigns Manager
Action on Empty Homes

Campaign for Community Investment

Building the momentum

Chris Bailey

Chris has worked across private, public and profit for purpose sectors; prior to focusing on social enterprise and urban regeneration. Recent work has focused on sustainability, stakeholder relations and public engagement around development and urban renewal. For the last decade Chris has worked predominantly in social enterprises: managing social and community assets sustainably; delivering local services; and organising statutory consultation and wider community engagement around mixed-use regeneration schemes. He 's a trustee of two local charities.



