



Ready to Lead London programme

Preparing London's next leaders for the future

The success of every great city relies on the vision of its leaders. For London to recover and thrive, its future leaders need to have the knowledge and tools to navigate the challenges the city faces, and work together to shape its response.

At London First we know how to influence and drive change. Uniquely placed to champion the capital, we give London's employers a powerful voice, prioritising the critical interventions needed to keep our city ahead of the curve.

That's why London First is launching a programme designed to help your organisation's future leaders learn how to work within, influence and change the capital's policy landscape. 'Ready to Lead London' brings together participants from the private, public and third sectors who are on the pathway to senior leadership positions, to gain the skills, expertise and experience to fully understand London's challenges, and the tools to contribute to its future.

Participants will gain:

- Access to a dynamic and diverse cross-sector network that connects them and your organisation with future business leaders and change makers from across the capital and the opportunity to share knowledge and best practice;
- Understanding of the mechanisms and the skills necessary to develop and implement policy through engagement with London First policy experts and the organisation's policy work and future activities;
- A deeper understanding of London's political landscape and its challenges;
- Knowledge of key methods for influencing change within and beyond your organisation and communicating your organisation's story and mission effectively, with practical guidance on how to apply this in daily working life.

2020 - 2021 programme

This 12-month programme centres on the concept that, as London recovers and changes, its next leaders need to be ready to tackle the challenges facing the capital – now and in the future. The programme begins with a deep dive into the London political landscape to understand its challenges and stakeholders, followed by a series of discussions on the big policy questions that will determine London's recovery and future success. These will run alongside masterclasses which will share the tools, techniques and skills needed to influence and drive change. All events include networking opportunities. Participants will also be invited to join other London First activities and events throughout the year.

The programme is planned to start in September 2020. There will be one session per month which will require a time commitment of on average one and a half hours. Please note that we will begin with virtual sessions and we will continue to review this in light of social distancing measures. This is a draft programme and is subject to change as things develop - we will aim to ensure any adjustments to the programme are communicated as far in advance as possible to help people manage busy diaries. Throughout the programme, participants will be invited to feed into its development.

1 Why is it important for business to step up?

Fireside discussion and Q&A with London First CEO Jasmine Whitbread and Chairman Paul Drechsler on the valuable role business can play in the months and years ahead in our capital.

- ▶ **Opportunity to get to know others on the programme with interactive virtual breakout sessions**

3 Smart cities and digital neighbourhoods

What role does data play?

Data has a crucial role to play in helping cities become smarter. We take a deep dive into data-led policy making, looking at how the private and public sector can unlock data-led solutions to solve the capital's challenges

Talk and Q&A with a leading thinker in their field

- ▶ **Gain insight into how businesses are creating value for London through data and insight sharing and how this can be used for better policy making**

2 London's landscape

Policy, players and challenges

To keep London at the forefront of global business and working for the country as a whole, we need to ensure it stays progressive. We look at how London works, who the relevant players and stakeholders are, and where decisions are made across London's key priorities

Talk and Q&A with an influential thinker

- ▶ **Gain understanding of London's policy challenges, how it's governed and lessons that can be applied across the country**

4 Business: a force for good? Leading with purpose

Consumers and other stakeholders expect companies to do more than just offer products and services. We look at what's needed to bring purpose to life and lead organisation's into the future at a time when leadership is needed most

Interactive discussion with a business leader

- ▶ **Gain insight into how to drive and manage change in a company**

5 Sustainability

Making London's recovery green - the challenge of net zero

With the Government committed to bringing all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, and growing calls for a resilient and environmentally sustainable path out of the Covid-19 crisis, we will discuss what the UK's Net Zero Carbon goals mean within a London context and what's needed to make it happen

Talk and Q&A with a leading thinker in their field

Masterclass: how to develop mission-driven policy. Gain understanding of the future of integrated policy making

- ▶ **Gain insights into the complexity of the sustainability challenge**

9 Skills

Opening up to new ideas

The impact of Covid-19 has been felt across the capital, not least for the job market, employers and their staff. Access to skills remains a critical issue for London, with many sectors experiencing skills shortages. We look at what organisations can do to build a diverse workforce and access the talent they need to thrive

Talk and Q&A with a leading thinker in their field

Masterclass: How to manage and influence your internal stakeholders from colleagues to the board

- ▶ **How to broaden the talent pool and create internal buy-in at all levels**

6 Tackling London's housing crisis

Housing London's growing population will be a huge challenge, and making sure homes are affordable will be paramount if London is to remain attractive and accessible. We're bringing together leading thinkers and stakeholders to discuss the business case for affordable housing and who finances it

- ▶ **Gain insight into how public-private financing partnerships could work**

7 Infrastructure

Funding London's transport pipeline

Covid-19 has not only shifted how people travel, work and play here in the capital, it has brought the city's transport system and the longer-term structural funding challenges into the spotlight. We'll hear from London's leading thinkers and stakeholders on the future of the UK's mass transit system – and its role in levelling up the UK

Masterclass: Campaigning for change - how to influence externally

- ▶ **Gain the tools and methods you need to bring about change beyond your organisation**

8 A vision for London London First hustings event

Ahead of the Mayoral Election, which will part-shape London's future for the next five years, we'll be bringing together Mayoral candidates to share their vision for the city.

- ▶ **See the different topics play out and be debated in a political forum**

10 Business for good?

Promoting diversity and equality at work

From attracting the most-qualified employees to fostering innovation and greater financial success, we discuss why diversity and equality are at the heart of future business success and why it matters for everyone

Interactive discussion with a business leader

- ▶ **Discover why organisations need to think more about diversity and equality if they don't want to be left behind**

12 Final dinner in central London

Participants come together to reflect on the last year, share lessons from the programme, and explore how they can be applied in their role going forward

11 Business for good?

Incorporating sustainability into business strategy

Sustainability has gone beyond just doing good and has emerged as a non-negotiable part of an organisation's DNA, with many businesses stepping forward in the fight against Covid-19 – helping communities in which they operate. We look at what broader social purpose looks like and how it impacts business

Interactive discussion with a business leader

- ▶ **Find out how businesses have used their wider CSR strategy to influence change**
Masterclass: How to harness the power of the media to make your voice heard
- ▶ **Learn how to communicate your asks to a broader audience**

How to participate

We are asking you to:

- Nominate an individual from your organisation on the cusp of senior management. They must be high potential emerging leaders with significant people and programme management responsibilities, who are at the level where they can apply their learning from the programme to their day-to-day work. Please consider the diversity of your nomination across gender, ethnicity and background.
- The nominated participants will need to provide 200 – 300 words on what they think is the most important challenge facing London and why they want to tackle it. They will also need to share what they hope to get out of the programme. (For example skills, knowledge and/or experience).
- The fee for participants, in this initial year, is £1,500 per participant.
- **Click here** or visit **londonfirst.co.uk/rtl** to fill in your application. Nominated individuals must complete all questions to be considered.

