

**INVITE TO  
FREE EVENT**

# Aspire Joint Event

## Reflect, Report, Review and Refresh

### Cohort 5 Celebration Day and Aspire Alumni Network Meeting

**Date:** Friday 15th December

**Location:** Birmingham Conference and Exhibition Centre

The purpose of the event is to combine the 'celebration day' of the current West Midlands Aspire cohort with a meeting of the Aspire alumni network.

In addition to hearing presentations from the current Aspire cohort setting out their project research and findings, delegates will hear from and be able to engage with a range of public sector leaders on the HR and OD challenges anticipated from the fast developing public service reform agenda.

We have brought together;

- **Phil Loach**, the **Chief Fire Officer and PSR lead Chief Executive** for the West Midlands Combined Authority;
- **Karen Dumain**, the **National OD Programme Lead for the NHS Leadership Academy**, and;
- **Samantha Betts**, **Assistant Director Human Resources** at Salford City Council

who will all share their perspective and experience of tackling the challenges of PSR for those seeking to lead and influence the people management and leadership agenda.

Delegates will also have an opportunity to **engage with the latest developments on Workforce Strategy** being co-ordinated by the **Local Government Association** through an interactive session with **Nigel Carruthers**, the LGA's Senior Adviser on Workforce Strategy and Development. Aspire alumni will be able to hear how they may be able to get involved in national strategy development and learning.

Delivered in partnership with



# Celebration Day Programme

9.15

**Arrival and Refreshments**

9:30

**Welcome, Colin Williams**

9.45 - 10.15

**Samantha Betts  
– Making PSR a  
reality in Salford and  
across GM**

Placing people at the heart of reform



10.15 - 11.00

**Theme 1**

How do you engage with the workforce to be change ready for digital transformation?

11.00

**Coffee**

11.15 - 11.45

**Karen Dumain**

The role of HR/OD as enablers of change; the emergence, complexity and focus of people and systems thinking and how HR&OD can make this successful.



11.45 – 12.30

**Theme 2**

A practitioner audit of a '21st century' public sector manager

12.30

**Lunch and networking**

1.15 - 1.45

**Nigel Carruthers**

Working together to develop future workforce strategy



1.45 - 2.30

**Theme 3**

Who wants to be an Executive Officer? A review of the factors affecting recruitment and retention into the 'top jobs'

2.30 - 3.00

**Phil Loach –  
Leading PSR in the  
West Midlands**

The role of people as a strategic Enabler – “no change without people change”



3.00 – 3.15

**Questions and Panel Discussion**

3.15 - 3.30

**Conclusions and Presentation of  
Certificates to Aspire Cohort**

3.30 – 4.00

**Informal networking and  
refreshments**

(Followed by further informal networking across the Bull Ring, Grand Central and the famous Birmingham German Christmas Market!)

[Click here to book now](#) >

