

Timetable

09:00 Registration and networking

10:00 Plenary

11:15 Refreshments and networking

11:45 to 12:45 **S1** Navigating the New Planning Landscape: Empowering Councils for Housing Success
Presented by JLL Technology

S2 Maximising Value: Why Local Authorities Should Choose Auctions for Asset Disposal
Presented by Pugh & Co (Part of Eddisons)

12:45 Lunch and networking

13:45 to 14:45 **S3** Optimising Operational Real Estate: Strategic Insights & Opportunities
Presented by Christie & Co

S4 Decarbonising local authority buildings
Presented by Salix Finance

14:45 Refreshments and networking

15:15 to 16:15 **S5** Test & learn approaches: Place Pilots – Public Property in Place
Presented by LGA

S6 Domestic Retrofit at Scale and Place: Towards Solving the System Challenge with a Place-Based Intervention
Presented by Bolsover District Council

16:15 Chair's closing remarks

16:20 Drinks reception

17:20 Conference close

Welcome

#LAPE25



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All details in this conference brochure were considered to be correct at time of publication. The organisers reserve the right to change or cancel any details. Whilst every care is taken to ensure that all published information is accurate, Public Sector Connect accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.

Welcome to the Local Authority Property & Estates 2025 conference, thank you for joining us. Thanks are due to all the organisations and individuals who have advised, assisted and supported us, especially:

- Our conference Chair, Ann Carter-Gray
- JLL, our title sponsor
- All the speakers for their generosity with their time and willingness to share their experiences and expertise
- The event sponsors and exhibitors – it is because of them that public sector delegates can attend our events free of charge so please take the time to meet them at their stands.

We trust that all delegates will find this event informative, useful and interesting and we wish you an enjoyable day as you create new networks and reconnect with old acquaintances.

Forthcoming events:

Government Property Strategy – 10th September 2025, The Studio, Manchester
NHS Property 2025 – 5th November 2025, One Great George Street, Westminster

Plenary 10:00



Conference Chair
Ann Carter-Gray
BSc MRICS

Former Head of Places,
Cabinet Office

Until her early retirement in October 2024, Ann had worked for The Cabinet Office for over 13 years, latterly as the Head of Places (Head of Estates, leading the strategic management of the Estate to meet the needs of the department and Environmental Sustainability; and Programme Director, the Locations Programme, successfully moving out of London and into the regions). Ann previously worked in the Government Property Agency (GPA) where she worked as Programme Director and has also worked in the Government Property Unit of The Cabinet Office.



Akshay Thakur
Head of Research and
Insights, JLLT Advisory

Akshay has over 23 years experience of engineering, consulting, sales, and business development experience in multiple technology-focused roles. His passion lies within the

space of IoT and in particular, the digitisation of buildings and workplaces.

Akshay will be presenting:
***Using AI To Power Public Sector
Real Estate Transformation***



Saurabh Bhandari
Director, Property Delivery
and Transformation, Office
of Government Property,
Cabinet Office

Saurabh leads strategic initiatives to modernise and optimise the Government Property Portfolio, with a focus on transforming property investments and assets into catalysts for innovation & growth that create public value. He is responsible for the ongoing improvement of facilities management in government buildings, including modernising infrastructure to enhance safety, energy efficiency and operational effectiveness across the public sector. As a precursor to transforming assets and investments, he will also provide leadership in using data and analytics to enable decisions across the government estate.

Having trained as a Chartered Architect and a Programme manager he brings multi-sector experience across real estate, social and economic infrastructure. Saurabh has extensive experience at senior positions on high-profile, national and international property programmes in a career spanning across multiple market sectors and both public and private investment led development programmes.

Saurabh will be presenting:
***Transforming Government Property:
capitalising on the public estate to drive
regional growth and opportunity***



Peter Beer

Head of Property & Strategic Assets, West Midlands Combined Authority

Peter was appointed Head of Property & Strategic Assets at West Midlands Combined Authority in June 2024. Peter is a chartered surveyor with 20 years'

experience managing local authority property portfolios for district and unitary authorities, before stepping into his current Combined Authority role.

With experience in property transformation, asset rationalisation and asset strategy planning, he is now working with partners both at the regional level, and with Cabinet Office and LGA to promote good asset management planning and partnership working in the West Midlands to unlock opportunities for property and place in the context of devolution. Peter is also an assessor for the RICS Associate route and is passionate in ensuring opportunities for development into the profession.

Peter will be presenting:

Reimagining Property and Place in the West Midlands: Opportunities through Devolution



Lindsay Whitley

One Public Estate - Regional Programme Manager, Local Government Association

Using her skills in placemaking, strategy and communication, Lindsay works across the NW & WM region to

deliver the innovative One Public Estate Programme – a partnership between the Local Government Association, OGP (Cabinet Office), and MHCLG. In this role she promotes collaboration between public sector partners to repurpose surplus public estate to kickstart regeneration, transform public service delivery, and unlock sites for new homes.

As a chartered town planner, urban designer and programme manager, her career has spanned both public and private sectors. She has a demonstrable track record of leading and delivering a successful portfolio of projects, including property, masterplanning, development, and design.

Lindsay will be presenting:

The value of collaboration around public sector property

Sessions

S1

11:45

Navigating the New Planning Landscape: Empowering Councils for Housing Success

Presented by JLL

- ▶ **Joanna Gabrilatson, Head of Regional Planning, JLL**
- ▶ **Henry Burton, Head of Regional Development & Regeneration, JLL**

Join JLL for an insightful seminar exploring the latest planning reforms and their impact on local authorities and housing delivery. Our expert panel will dissect the new planning regime, offering practical strategies for councils

to accelerate housing development amid current market challenges. Discover innovative approaches to overcome obstacles and learn how to leverage the changing regulatory environment to meet housing needs effectively.

This seminar is essential for council leaders, planning officers, and housing professionals looking to stay ahead in the evolving property landscape.

S2

12:15

Maximising Value: Why Local Authorities Should Choose Auctions for Asset Disposal

Presented by Pugh & Co (Part of Eddisons)

- ▶ **Edward Feather, Associate Director, Pugh & Co (Part of Eddisons)**

This session will explore the reasons why local authorities should consider using auctions as a primary method for disposing of assets. Focusing on the benefits of speed, transparency, and market-driven pricing, we will demonstrate how auctions ensure a fair and competitive process, maximising the value of surplus public sector properties and land. The session will also highlight how auctions can minimise administrative costs, reduce risk, and attract

a wide range of potential buyers, as well as providing certainty in completion timelines, helping local authorities to meet financial goals and efficiently manage surplus assets. Furthermore, the session will examine key provisions of the Local Government Act, which govern the disposal of public sector assets, and demonstrate how auctions comply with these regulations by providing a clear and competitive process. By the end of this session, delegates will have gained a clear understanding of why auctions are the most effective and efficient solution for asset disposal in the public sector.

12:45

Lunch

S3

13:45

Optimising Operational Real Estate: Strategic Insights & Opportunities

Presented by Christie & Co

- ▶ **Courteney Donaldson MRICS, Managing Director, Childcare & Education, Christie & Co**
- ▶ **Karun Ahluwalia, Director, Consultancy, Christie & Co**

This session will provide a high-level insights into the elderly care, childcare & education markets, focusing on the evolution of local authority ownership over the past decade. We will explore significant macro trends impacting both sectors, including government policies

and supply challenges. The presentation will highlight successful public-private partnerships, showcasing how collaboration with the private sector has led to improved outcomes.

Additionally, we will present strategies for local authorities to optimize and enhance their estates, ensuring better service delivery and efficiency. Through case studies and practical examples, we aim to provide actionable insights for stakeholders in both markets.

S4

14:15

Decarbonising local authority buildings

Presented by Salix Finance

- ▶ **Simon Pettett, Assistant Director of Programmes, Salix Finance**

In this session we will share how Salix works with local authorities on their net zero journeys, managing government funding schemes including the Public Sector

Decarbonisation Scheme to support the delivery of decarbonisation projects. We will explore the challenges and successes of the scheme to date, including case studies where low carbon heating systems and energy efficiency improvements have reduced carbon and helped create better places to work.

14:45

Refreshments

S5

15:15

Test & learn approaches: Place Pilots – Public Property in Place

Presented by LGA (Local Government Association)

- ▶ **Lindsay Whitley, Regional Programme Manager – One Public Estate, LGA**

Nearing conclusion, *Place Pilots: Public Property in Place*, an Office of Government Property initiative delivered through ‘One Public Estate’, aimed to encourage all public asset owners in each place – central government organisations, councils and other public sector organisations – to explore opportunities by sharing future asset plans through multi-portfolio collaboration

and embedding a stronger focus on strategic asset management, to optimise investment and support better public services. The ambitious initiative sought to test approaches in a range of authority scales and landscapes to deliver a ‘smaller, better, greener’ public estate, fostering collaboration and engagement across the public sector, particularly between local and central government bodies, to generate a more joined up approach to future public estate demand and supply, and collaborative service delivery.

S6

15:45

Domestic Retrofit at Scale and Place: Towards Solving the System Challenge with a Place-Based Intervention

Presented by Bolsover District Council

- ▶ **Chris Fridlington, Director of Economic Development, Bolsover District Council**

Retrofitting our existing building stock is an urgent climate action needed to greatly reduce operational carbon emissions and conserve embodied carbon, by extending the life of

existing buildings. It's also an important part of climate adaptation. The urgency means that one building at a time will not be enough – this presentation gives an overview of how we are confronting the complex system challenge of retrofitting our housing stock at pace and scale.

16:15

Chair's closing remarks

16:20

Drinks reception

Please note that agenda, session times and speakers are subject to change



JLL is a property consultancy company specialising in property services and investment management. We SEE A BRIGHTER WAY forward for our clients, our people, our planet, and our communities. By combining innovative technology with world-renowned expertise, we're unveiling opportunities that create a brighter future for all.

At JLL, we take pride in doing things differently. We see the built environment as a powerful medium with which to change the world for the better. By combining innovative technology and data intelligence with our world-renowned expertise, we're able to unveil untapped opportunities for success.

The Public Sector is facing increasing pressure to meet long-standing economic challenges and demand for services. At JLL, we see this as an opportunity to work in collaboration with our clients to provide innovative solutions to create a 'modern' Public Sector that will help meet these emerging and transformative demands.

We are a trusted advisor to the Public Sector, working in partnership with Central Government departments, Local Authorities, Education, NHS and Bluelight organisations and utilise our knowledge of global trends and emerging sectors to inform our advice. From sustainability, commercial structuring, placemaking and technology expertise to precision delivery, JLL offers an end-to-end solution that redefines the places we work and live. We're invested in transforming urban environments to improve quality of life, with social and environmental value at the heart of everything we do.


JLL acts on some of the most exciting and prestigious commercial and residential property schemes in the UK advising landowners, investors, developers, and occupiers across the Public Sector. Our approach is to combine local in-depth real estate expertise, enhanced by the best intelligence and business reach of JLL's national and global network to maximise opportunities and results for all our clients. For more information please visit jll.co.uk or contact nick.freeston@jll.com





Shaping sustainable communities

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 **JLL** SEE A BRIGHTER WAY

Carter Jonas Simply better property advice

Carter Jonas is an established property consultancy with 34 offices across the UK, including key hubs in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Leeds, and Oxford. Our team of over 1,000 property professionals covers commercial, planning, development, residential, infrastructures and rural markets.

Our specialist teams understand the operational needs of the public and third sectors, working with diverse clients, including local authorities, police services, developers, and investors. We offer comprehensive knowledge of national, regional, and local property markets.

We assist clients in developing effective estate strategies, leading option appraisals, and conducting asset reviews. Our business cases, ranging from concise variants to full Five Case HM Treasury Green Book versions, support informed decision-making and comply with approval processes.

In addition to strategic planning, we implement agreed-upon strategies, offering advice informed by internal market knowledge. Our Masterplanning teams excel in creating masterplans for large or complex holdings, coordinating competing demands effectively. Planning teams handle applications from building adaptations to large-scale new constructions in the public sector.

Our Agency and Investment teams are active across the UK in various markets, producing informative research reports. Visit our stand today to discover how we can maximize your property assets.

Alexandra Houghton
Partner, Head of Public Sector
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carterjonas.co.uk/public-and-third-sector



Christie & Co are the market-leaders in trading related operational real estate, specialising in healthcare, childcare & education, hospitality, retail and leisure.

Our expertise spans valuation, advisory, consultancy and transactions across the entire asset lifecycle – from sourcing operators, feasibility studies and rent reviews to capital markets, acquisitions, and sales.

www.christie.com

Eddisons

Eddisons offers a comprehensive range of multi-disciplinary professional property services including building consultancy, valuations services and commercial agency. We are also now one of the largest property auctioneers in the country.

Our Property Auctions division incorporates some of the leading names in the business including Pugh, Mark Jenkinson, and SDL Property Auctions, offering monthly live-streamed auctions and daily timed auctions under the SDL Property Auctions brand, and monthly online auctions under the Pugh and Mark Jenkinson brands.

Our team has a strong track record and reputation for successfully selling properties and land by auction for a wide range of private investors and publicly owned organisations.

Property auctions are key in asset disposal and business relief strategies, often utilised by our Building & Projects Consultancy and Property Agency teams.

This means that all Eddisons' clients benefit from the strength of three leading auction brands and their teams of experts coming together under one roof to contribute to securing outstanding results for all clients – bidders, buyers, sellers, and service users alike.

Before, during and after the sale, Eddisons' consultants are ready to assist with issues such as dilapidations advice, feasibility studies, and estates strategy, ensuring a smooth transaction throughout your project.

Visit: www.eddisons.com
Email: info@eddisons.com



KBR Estates Intelligence: Maximising Public Value with Assured Estate Management

Public sector leaders face unique challenges in managing large real estate portfolios: balancing regulatory compliance, achieving sustainability goals, and ensuring accountability, all within constrained budgets. With decades of proven success in public sector estates management, **KBR Estates Intelligence** delivers the expertise and solutions needed to optimise your assets and achieve your objectives.

As part of our advanced VIAverse® platform, we integrate validated data and cutting-edge technology to streamline operations, reduce operational waste and maximise the value of your real estate portfolio.

Our solutions empower you to make data-driven decisions, ensuring compliance with government regulations, meeting sustainability targets and supporting transparent, accountable estate management.

Partner with **KBR Estates Intelligence** to transform your estates into strategic enablers of long-term success. Visit our website or meet us at our stand to explore how we can support your mission.



Visit: kbr.com/estates-intelligence
Email: ei@kbr.com
Tel: 01372 862865



LocatED is a government-owned property company and an arm's-length body to the Department for Education. Created in 2017, LocatED exists to provide expert property advice to the education sector and government, helping develop estates strategy, acquire new sites and progress decarbonisation.

We help solve complex property challenges faced by the public estate, supporting education bodies to make the most efficient use of land, delivering capital receipts to address condition need and working towards a smaller, better, greener estate.

Contact details

www.located.co.uk
info@located.co.uk

Social media

x.com/locatedproperty
instagram.com/located_property
linkedin.com/company/located



We're Salix and we're on a mission to help save the planet.

We exist to enable and inspire public sector organisations to move towards net zero and create better places to live and work.

We deliver government funding schemes across the UK to support councils, schools, housing associations, hospitals and universities to boost their energy efficiency, reduce their impact on the environment, save money and to remove more households from fuel poverty. We work with the UK government and the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales.

In addition to managing the funding schemes, we provide professional advice, expertise, and support to recipients of funding throughout all stages of their projects. We also offer insight, intelligence and influence by sharing knowledge and lessons learned from project delivery to help improve future schemes and policy development.

We are committed to supporting governments in reaching their ambitious net zero targets, and we're proud and excited to be on the journey with them.

www.salixfinance.co.uk



Valuation Office Agency

District Valuer Services (DVS) is the specialist property arm of the Valuation Office Agency (VOA). We provide independent, impartial, valuation and professional property advice across the entire public sector, and where public money or public functions are involved.

As part of the public sector ourselves, we fully understand the challenges and demands of today's property issues. We are committed to delivering a high level of service to our clients and work closely with them to provide tailored solutions to meet their needs.

With extensive experience across central, regional, local, and devolved government, health, environment and transport and infrastructure sectors we provide a comprehensive range of services.

DVS Property Specialists for the Public Sector

We are acutely aware of providing our public sector clients with the best advice to reduce costs and maintain an estate that is fit for purpose and offers community benefits. As part of Government, DVS is ideally placed to work across public sector bodies and harness a collaborative approach to property.

You can reduce procurement costs and time by procuring VOA through a compliant Direct Award under the Crown Commercial Service (CCS) Estate Management Services Framework RM6168 and the Welsh Government Technical and Professional Services Framework (SEWTAPS).

To find out how VOA can help you with your requirements, visit our stand or contact:

E: clientdevelopment@voa.gov.uk

W: www.voa.gov.uk/dvs



Today's conference was brought to you by Public Sector Connect. Through our events, Public Sector Connect are dedicated to addressing the many diverse challenges faced by the UK public sector and in particular, the senior level individuals and teams charged with implementing the challenges.

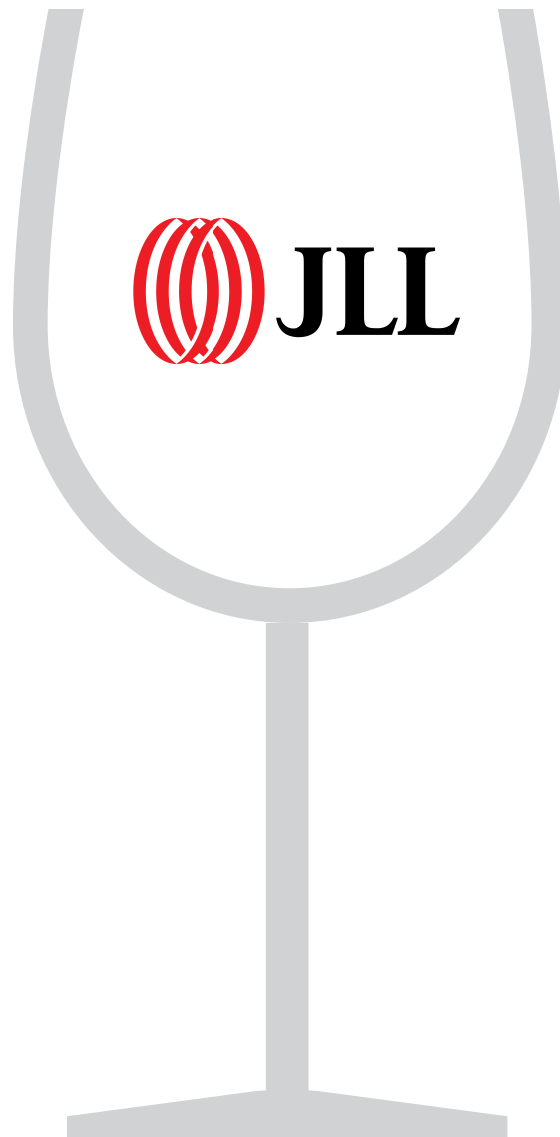
Our strong relationships developed over many years with a wide range of organisations and key individuals within central government, local government, NHS and the wider public sector give us a unique insight into the many complex issues at the heart of modern-day government.

Our aim is to ensure that we provide the right environment for the greatest communication, learning and sharing of best practice to take place. Our events provide thought provoking plenary speakers, debates and informal, interactive case-study based seminars.

If your public sector organisation has a requirement for an event or you have a case study you are keen to share at one of our conferences please get in touch to see if we can help you.

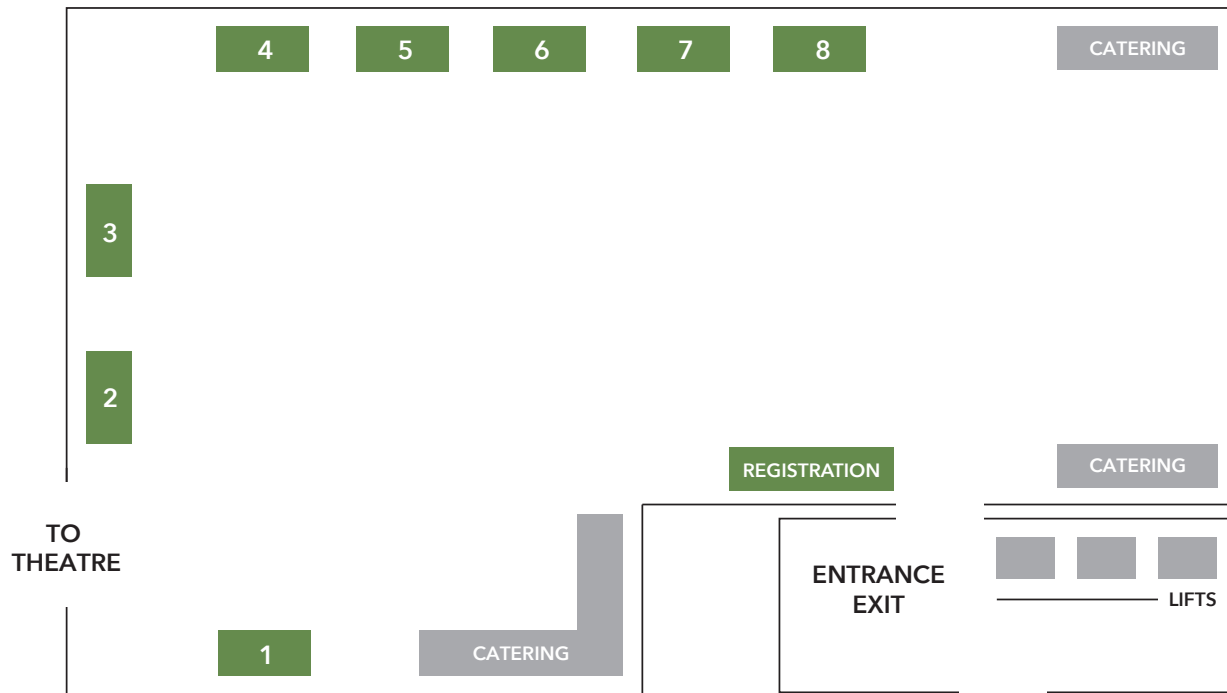
enquiries@publicsectorconnect.org

Drinks reception



Join us at 16:20 for the end of conference drinks reception - kindly sponsored by JLL

Exhibition floorplan




1	JLL - title sponsor
2	Eddisons
3	KBR
4	LocatED
5	Carter Jonas
6	Christie & Co
7	DVS VOA
8	Salix Finance



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