Take Your Place

South East Leadership Development Programme

The Staff College in partnership with the South East Sector Led Improvement Programme have developed a leadership offer for third-tier officers to help improve the leadership capacity and succession planning for the South East Region.

The Programme will provide the opportunity to:

- Develop a strong, self-directing network of heads of service across the region.
- Reflect and develop on leadership effectiveness and provide a safe space for peer-to-peer support.
- Form a confident group of leaders who collectively understand strategic and systems leadership.
- Individually explore a practical strategic challenge during the programme.
- Develop a pool of Aspiring Assistant Directors and future Directors.

This leadership offer is open to 25 Heads of Service from across the region nominated by the senior leadership teams of each council.

Programme format and dates: **All in-person sessions will be held at Novotel, Reading Centre.**

14th – 15th January 2027 (2 full days)	Orientation Residential Event	In-person
1st February 2027 (09:00-11:00)	Action Learning Set 2	Virtual
15th February 2027 (1 full day)	Workshop Day 1	In-person
1st March 2027 (09:00-11:00)	Action Learning Set 3	Virtual
18th March 2027 (1 full day)	Workshop Day 2	In-person
16th April 2027 (1 full day)	End of Programme Day Event	In-person
5th May 2027 (13:00-15:00)	Action Learning Set 4	Virtual

Each SESLIP large authority has two places and small authorities a single place. Your final nominations need to be endorsed by your DCS and details sent to mark@markevansconsulting.co.uk

The deadline for applications is the 9th December 2026

Those nominated will be asked to complete a short online questionnaire with the Staff College to confirm their place.

