

The community health, housing and social care conference

# Bridging gaps, building futures

Tackling inequalities in the South East

## Join us

Delivering equality of outcomes and opportunities in health, housing and social care.

-  **Intersections of Inequality**  
Understanding the complex relationships between poverty and inequality in health and housing.
-  **Policy implications**  
The impact of government policy and practice on inequality and evidence for positive change.
-  **Community development**  
Community-driven initiatives & place-based support to foster community engagement & empowerment.
-  **Cross-sector collaboration**  
Delivering effective and sustainable partnership working to improve community health and wellbeing.

## Supported by



Barretts

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## Details

### Location and date

Ashford International Hotel  
14 November 2024  
9 am - 3 pm

### Speaker registration

Please submit expressions of interest and topics/synopses by 31 August.

### Delegate registration

Local government, healthcare social care, and VCSE sector  
**Free of charge**

Commercial, corporate, and for-profit organisations  
**£50**

## In partnership with

Porchlight 



Social  
Enterprise  
Kent

## More information

[porchlight.org.uk/equality](https://porchlight.org.uk/equality)

## Contact

[communications@porchlight.org.uk](mailto:communications@porchlight.org.uk) 01227 760078

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# Bridging gaps, building futures

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### Overview

The 'Bridging gaps, building futures' Sector Conference for 2024 brings together the top 100 experts, policymakers, and leaders from local communities, VCSEs, health and social care, local government, and academia to engage in a comprehensive discussion on the interconnected issues of poverty, and inequality in health and housing and how to address these at a local level.

With a focus on a 'place-based' approach we will work together to understand the issues, interconnections and relationships in local areas and how we can improve the coordination of action and investment to improve the quality of life for the local communities.

The goal is to foster collaboration and exploring innovative solutions, with the conference providing a platform for insight into existing place-based inclusion health provisions, panel discussions, and community development/networking opportunities.

With statutory services and VCSEs working in partnership as a system; together, we fight for lasting change; a safe home, better life and fairer future for everyone.

### Agenda

**Ashford International Hotel**  
**14 November 2024**

- 9.00 am** Registration and welcome refreshments.
- 9.30 am** Opening remarks
- 9.45 am** Morning keynote address
- 10.15 am** Panel discussion: understanding the interconnected challenges
- 11.00 am** Networking break
- 11.15 am** Policy analysis
- 11.45 am** Community-driven solutions
- 12.15 pm** Innovative approaches to addressing inequalities
- 1.00 pm** Lunch break and networking
- 2.00 pm** Cross-sector collaboration
- 2.45 pm** Closing remarks
- 3.00 pm** Close

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Keynote: Marmot Places

# Action to reduce inequalities

## Dr Michael Alexander

Dr Michael Alexander is a senior research fellow at the UCL Institute of Health Equity (IHE).

He co-authored *The Business of Health Equity: The Marmot Review for Industry* with Sir Michael Marmot (2022). The report set out how recommendations for how the private sector can play a role in reducing health inequality in communities by shaping the conditions in which people live and work.

Dr Alexander returned to the IHE this year, having spent two years working in public health in Blackpool, during which time he gained a masters degree in public health and worked on projects to highlight the health harms of gambling and to support the health of trans and gender diverse people across Lancashire.

He has also worked on projects to improve health equity in Luton and Hong Kong. He is currently working on a report on the health equity impacts of housing projects, and on bringing the Marmot approach to Kent and Medway.

Prior to working at the IHE, he worked as a junior doctor in a range of medical departments, including medium security forensic mental health.



## Fair Society, Healthy Lives

The landmark Marmot review *Fair Society, Healthy Lives* (2010), outlined the scale of health inequalities in England and made recommendations for future action. In the decade and a half since, through the years of austerity and Covid-19, these inequalities have only deepened, and the health of the nation has suffered. For the first time in living memory, life expectancy in this country has decreased. The impact of our failing health has fallen hardest on deprived communities.

The evidence that poverty and other forms of deprivation are major determinants of poor health is overwhelming. Despite this, local initiatives to improve health and health equity still struggle to get the funding and support they need.

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Hosts and supporters

# Sustainable outcomes

## Porchlight

We were founded to help people facing the devastating effects of homelessness. Today, we also tackle the causes and consequences of poverty and inequality.

Poverty, health and housing injustice are complex problems affecting millions of lives. They are also avoidable.

We work to improve understanding of the issues and find sustainable solutions to rebalance an unfair system.



**Porchlight** 

## Social Enterprise Kent

Social Enterprise Kent has been operating for nearly 40 years, and our mission is "Every day, we shape a better tomorrow".

We deliver a positive social impact, strengthen communities, empower people and improve lives.

Guided by our principles as a social enterprise, we are committed to ensuring sustainable outcomes for communities, leaving those we work with, stronger and more resilient.



**Social  
Enterprise  
Kent**

### What we do

- Community Health & Wellbeing
  - Support for individuals in the community
  - Integration with health & statutory systems
- Business & Skills
  - Training and development
  - 1-2-1 and peer support for SME organisations



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