

## CIH Futures & the South West working together

CIH Futures is an advisory board for the CIH, working across the whole of the UK, with the aim to ensure both the CIH and the Housing Sector has a viable future, reflecting society as whole. We do this by supporting the CIH to attract and retain new members, and by helping members who are predominantly under 30 to learn new skills & gain greater exposure within the sector.

2018 saw Futures achieve a number of things, including a reduction in the price of membership for professionals under 30 (just £60 for the year), plus the search and selection, by Yarlinton in Somerset, for a board member under the age of 30. Increasing the diverse perspective of their board and maximising the opportunity for new ways of thinking for the organisation going forwards.

In 2019, we want to support more members under 30 than ever before, to share their views, grow as professionals and make the most of the energy behind the Housing movement right now. You can follow us on Twitter and Instagram @CIHFutures for more information, but here's a quick list of some of the things to look out for this year:

- #JANJAM – This January we've been focusing on kicking off the New Year the right way, taking a look at selfcare, reflecting on your experience of 2018 and focusing on your career aims for 2019. Check out more by following the hashtag
- #Futures50 – Late last year we put the call out for professionals under 30 to get involved and write blog pieces for us. This could be to share best practice, past experience, overcoming challenges or new ideas for Housing in 2019. We had a massive response, with over 150 interested people. We launched the first blog in the series in the first full week of January, and we've got much more to come! Keep an eye out for colleagues in the South West, including Aimee Dodd and Eve Hughes from Alliance to name just two!
- South West Conference 2019 – Futures will be supporting and speaking at the Conference in Bristol this May. The conference is a big hit, and a great way for new professionals to introduce themselves to the sector in the South West. Make sure to keep an eye out for more information!
- Aspiring Leaders Residential – Futures spoke at last year's event, and we'll be getting involved again this year. Invest in your development for a couple of days, hearing from great speakers and taking dedicated time to work on your professional skills, all whilst making new connections from across the South West. This is definitely not one to be missed, but places are limited, so make sure you're quick to register your interest when more information is released!

Don't be shy, we want to hear what's important to you as a Housing professional and explore any ideas you've got for how we could increase member benefit within the South West. We want to share your experience and success stories, raise the profile of and give opportunities to young professionals across the South West. We can look at new networking opportunities, and if you haven't already, sign up for the mentoring programme as a great way to get tailored advice on your career.

And what if you're over 30? We still want to hear from you, to support young professionals, share your learning and maybe the mistakes you made along the way. If you want to get involved or would like to find out more about what we have planned, please reach out to myself directly @JimEBallantye or @CIHFutures or @CIHSouthWest on Twitter.