

LIEM Library Leadership Programme

The LIEM Library Leadership Programme is designed to equip current and aspiring library leaders with the necessary skills, knowledge, and strategic insights to effectively manage and innovate within modern library environments. This programme aims to develop leadership competencies that foster innovation, collaboration, and sustainable library services.

Objectives

- To enhance leadership and management skills specific to library environments.
- To promote innovation and adaptability in the evolving information landscape.
- To strengthen advocacy and community engagement capabilities.
- To develop greater levels of confidence and resilience to lead in uncertain times.
- To foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing among library professionals.

Target Audience

- Mid-career library professionals seeking leadership roles and responsibilities (this does not necessarily mean looking for manager roles, it could be looking to lead work within their current role).
- Current or emerging library leaders looking to refine their leadership skills.
- Those who are currently working in the sector and have at least 3 years' experience

Programme Outcomes

Participants will:

- Gain practical leadership strategies applicable to library settings.
- Develop an action plan for implementing leadership improvements.
- Strengthen networks with fellow library professionals.
- Enhance their ability to lead change and innovation.

Programme Structure

The programme will be delivered by 2 face-to-face workshops and 4 online sessions. All sessions will be facilitated by Jo Walley, library leadership coach and facilitator.

1. **June: Me as a Leader**

Friday 19th June 2026, 10am-4pm (Royal Derby Hospital)

- a. Understanding personal leadership strengths and areas for growth.
- b. Self-assessment and goal setting.

2. **July: Leadership Styles and Approaches**

Date TBC, 1hr session

- a. Exploring different leadership styles and their effectiveness.

- b. Identifying the most suitable leadership approach for different settings.
3. **August: Leadership Strategy**
Date TBC, 1hr session
 - a. Developing strategic leadership skills.
 - b. Implementing leadership strategies in a library context.
4. **September: Leadership and Communication**
Date TBC, 1hr session
 - a. Effective communication for leadership success.
 - b. Empowering others through effective communication and support.
5. **October: Leadership and Resilience**
Date TBC, 1hr session
 - a. Developing resilience in leadership roles.
 - b. Managing stress and overcoming leadership challenges.
6. **November: Change Management and Reflecting on My Learning**
Friday 20th November 2026, 10am-4pm (Nottingham Central Library)
 - a. Understanding and managing change in library environments.
 - b. Reflecting on personal growth and future leadership goals.

Investment

Attendance at all events is compulsory, though in the event of unforeseen circumstances the online sessions could be recorded.

The financial investment for the full programme including both full-day training workshops and all four online sessions is £250 for LIEM-members and £350 for non-members.

Please note: Lunch will not be provided for the all-day sessions – please ensure you bring your own lunch, or you can get something from the nearby towns (there will be adequate time during the lunch break).

Application and Selection Process

Applications are open to LIEM members and non-members, though priority will be given to LIEM members.

Interested participants must submit an expression of interest to training@liem.org.uk by **Thursday 26th March 2026** with the following details:

- Name
- Role
- Organisation
- What do you hope to gain from the LIEM Leadership Programme?
- Details for invoice (name, address, PO number if needed)

Selection will be based on leadership potential and commitment to professional growth so please address this. Successful applicants will be notified by Friday 17th April.