

October 2021

Press Release



BUILDEAST PARTNERS ANNOUNCE DISABILITY SUMMIT FOR THE HOUSING SECTOR

A range of influencers, residents and housing people will be kickstarting conversations about disability in the first of BuildEast's lunch and learn sessions.

Eastlight Community Homes is partnering with disability organisation Purple to raise awareness of the challenges disabled residents and employees face.

BuildEast and its partners want to work with the sector to drive change by keeping the conversation alive and sharing best practice.

The virtual "**Housing Sector Summit: Driving Improvements for Disabled People in Housing**" event will be held on **Wednesday 6 October, from 12:30pm to 2pm.**

Speakers include:

- **Simon Nunn, NHF** Executive Director of Member Services – where are we as a sector
- **Vanessa Dockerill**, Housing Disability and Access Ambassador for the **Cabinet Office** Disability Unit – Government expectations
- **Michelle Baker, resident and Board member** – with lived experience of the challenges families face with disabled children.
- **Fara Muneer, Head of Centre for Accessible Environments** and Design Council Expert – designing homes fit for people's needs
- **Emma Palmer, CEO Eastlight** – **Build East lead on EDI**
- **Mike Adams, CEO Purple disability influencing organisation** – what can we learn from our customers and the commercial sector.

There will be a chance to ask questions and share learning.

Purple will be encouraging a broader commitment to change through support for **Purple Tuesday** – a high-profile national annual awareness-raising day on **November 2**, which brings together organisations of all sizes, and from all sectors, and aims to improve the customer experience for disabled people 365 days a year.



"We want to kickstart fresh conversations about disabilities, including hidden disabilities, and establish a lasting narrative with a broader audience that will lead to us working together to create a more diverse, inclusive environment for our employees and communities."

Emma Palmer, Eastlight
Community Homes CEO



"Disabled people have the right and need for accessible housing, and to work in inclusive workplaces. But we know that this is not always the case. We want to spotlight best practices and areas for improvements in the Housing sector so that that accessibility and disability inclusion becomes the norm."

Mike Adams OBE, CEO, Purple

[Click here for your FREE ticket](#)