

**FORWARD
INSTITUTE**

FORWARD
EXCHANGE
PROGRAMME
2026



See leadership

DIFFERENTLY

Leadership is getting harder.

Technology, economic pressure and geopolitical volatility are reshaping organisations at pace. Senior leaders are making high-stakes decisions with incomplete information, influencing across silos and driving transformation at pace. Time is limited, but the demands are not.

What matters now is sharper judgement, broader perspective and the confidence to act under pressure.

The Forward Exchange is designed for this reality.

Delivered across seven in-person days over six months, it is built for leaders who cannot step away from their roles for extended periods.

At its core are structured, reciprocal leadership exchanges. Participants step inside organisations very different from their own and host peers in return. It is a rare opportunity to see their leadership through a completely different lens.

Leaders return clearer in their judgement, stronger in their influence and better equipped to navigate sustained uncertainty.



Who is the Forward Exchange for

The programme is for leaders who are:



Leading their teams through **uncertainty and transformation**.



Serious about developing their leadership to meet the **demands of the future**.



Time-strapped and cannot step away from their roles for extended periods.



What leaders gain



A practical toolkit for leading through uncertainty

Leaders leave with tools and insight they can apply immediately in their context, strengthening their decision-making and equipping them to embed lasting behavioural change.



Clearer judgement in complexity

Through structured peer challenge and expert provocation, leaders see their blind spots, sharpen their thinking and strengthen enterprise-wide perspective.



Human leadership in a tech-shaped world

Leaders use AI-enabled tools to deepen reflection, test ideas and strengthen decision-making without losing human judgement.



A cross-sector peer network

Participants join a trusted community of senior leaders across business, government and society, providing challenge and support long after the programme ends.

How the Forward Exchange works

6
months

Leadership exchanges

Participants both visit and host peers from radically different organisations. These are not curated showcases. The aim is simple: break out of familiar assumptions and widen perspective.

7
immersive days

Experiential workshops

Three immersive workshops explore the tools, tensions and futures shaping leadership. Each session is designed to stretch thinking through provocation and peer challenge.

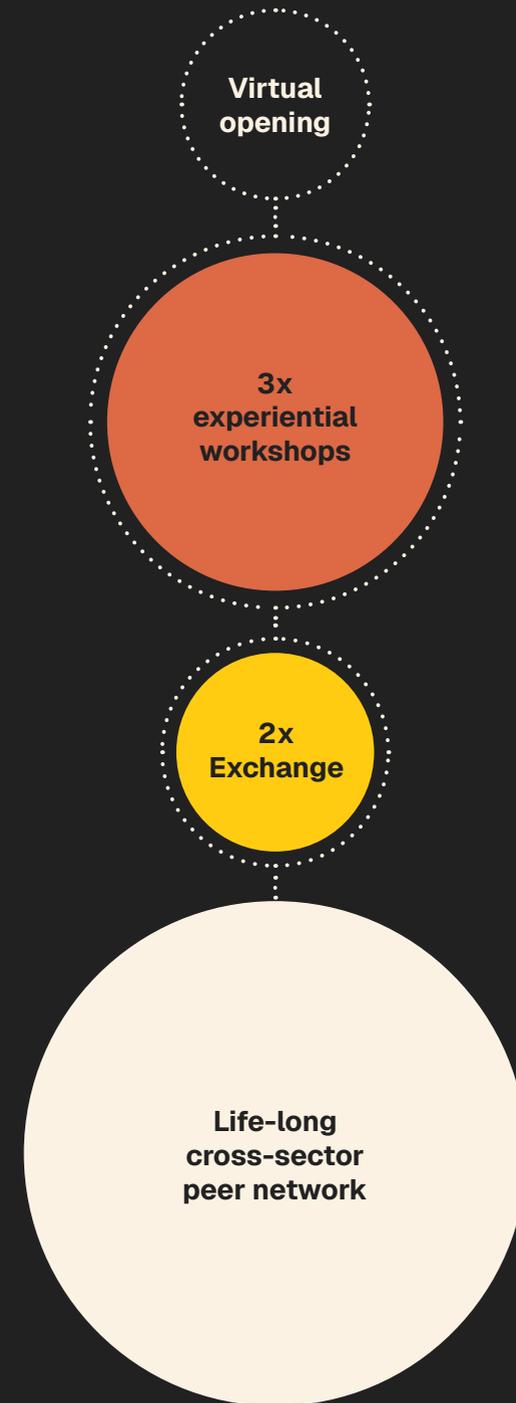
60
senior leaders
per cohort

Perspective-shifting peer learning

Each cohort brings together senior leaders from business, government and society. Structured peer reflection sharpens judgement, surfaces blind spots and strengthens confidence to lead beyond functional silos.

AI-enabled reflection

Participants use an AI learning companion to capture insight, test thinking and accelerate application between sessions. Technology supports judgement. It does not replace it.



Join the Forward Exchange

Key dates for the 2026 Programme

Workshop 1: 13th May

Workshop 2: 4th June

Leadership Exchange days:
4 days between June and October

Workshop 3: 8th October



There is a lot of value to be gained from the Forward Exchange through the unique opportunity to observe and learn from leaders from other industries, combined with the space to reflect on your own leadership and organisational culture.

Jonathan Lowe
Head of Group Technology Strategy, Barclays

Who leaders learn alongside

TESCO

BARCLAYS



centrica

BCG



easyJet

LinkedIn



swissport

Quilter

Associated British Foods plc



unicef

Crisis



BBC



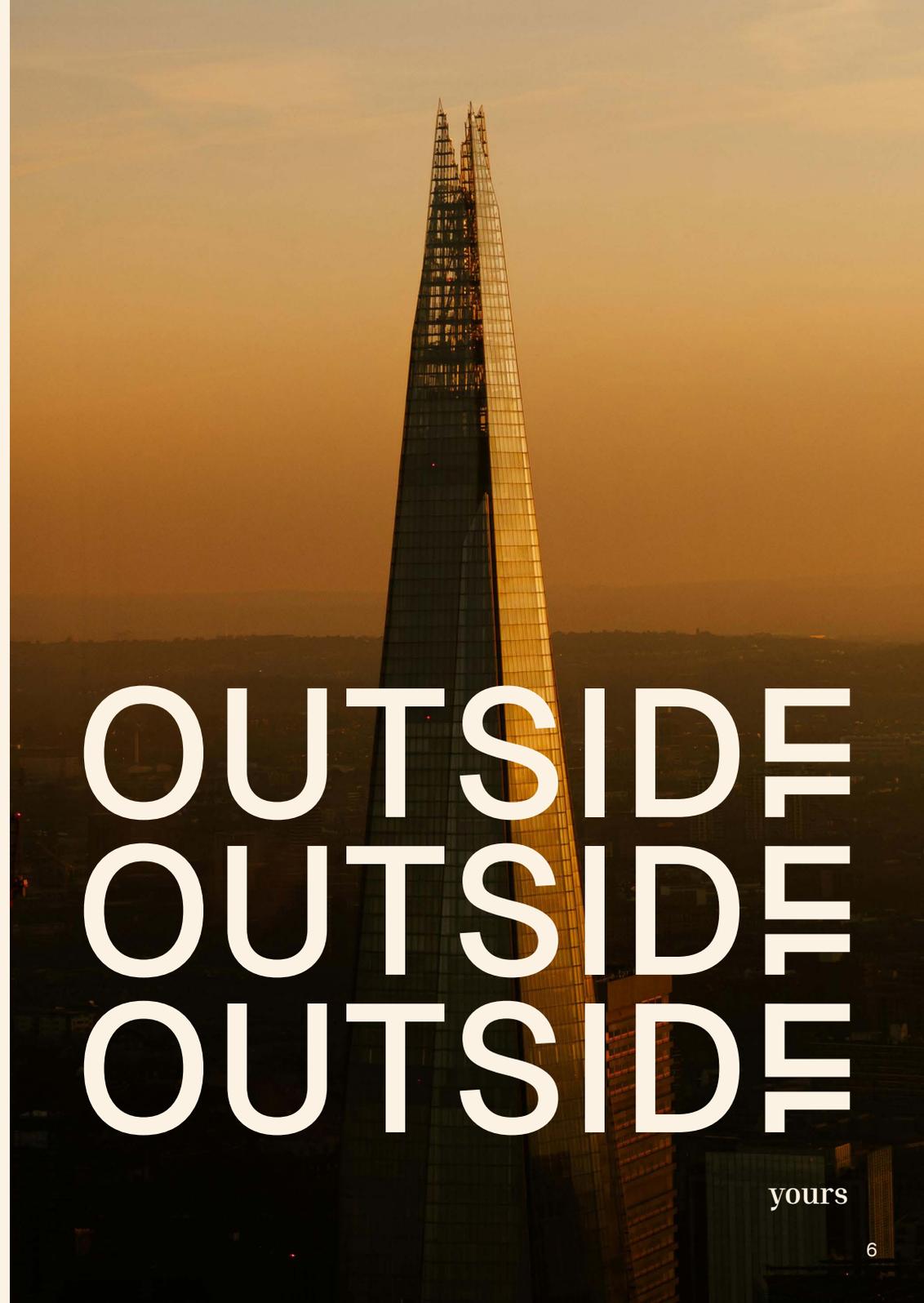
METROPOLITAN POLICE

NHS

To lead the world

forward,

you need to step



OUTSIDE
OUTSIDE
OUTSIDE

yours

About the Forward Institute

The Forward Institute shapes responsible leadership at the highest levels of business, government and society.

Since 2015, more than 1,500 senior leaders have joined our programmes and network.

We design and deliver transformative leadership development programmes, advisory and events that equip leaders to navigate complexity, drive change and lead with responsibility.

We don't just prepare leaders to navigate the future. We equip them to lead it.

Change leadership

CHANGE EVERYTHING

Find out more

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