

HUMAN LIBRARY

A partnership between Home Group and Tpas

The aim is simple; to learn, understand, break down stigma and challenge stereotypes.



How the Human Library approach helps residents and housing staff break down stigma and challenge stereotypes.

There are approximately 4.1 million social homes in England and Wales and thousands of people working in the sector.

That's millions of people who work and live in social housing with different opinions, ways of thinking and opportunities for new ideas.

It sounds obvious to state but we all deserve to live and work in an environment that's free of discrimination, harassment, stigma and victimisation.

Homegroup and Tpas believe that tenants and housing practitioners alike have an important role to play in actively challenging prejudice and inequality.

The Human Library approach gives us the power to ask questions, listen, understand and ultimately change the way we think, act and work.

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Human stories

“I always thought I had a good understanding of diversity but this was the first time I have met and spoken to a transgender woman and it really helped me to appreciate the issues she faces on a day to day basis.”

Resident



Human stories

“Working at Head Office you can feel removed from day to day delivery and this session helped us to feel part of that.”

Housing Staff

What is the Human Library approach?

For Home Group and Tpas, it's about bringing a diverse group of residents and housing staff together to share their personal stories and experiences through meetings, workshops, training and events.

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Some of the experiences discussed in the past include:

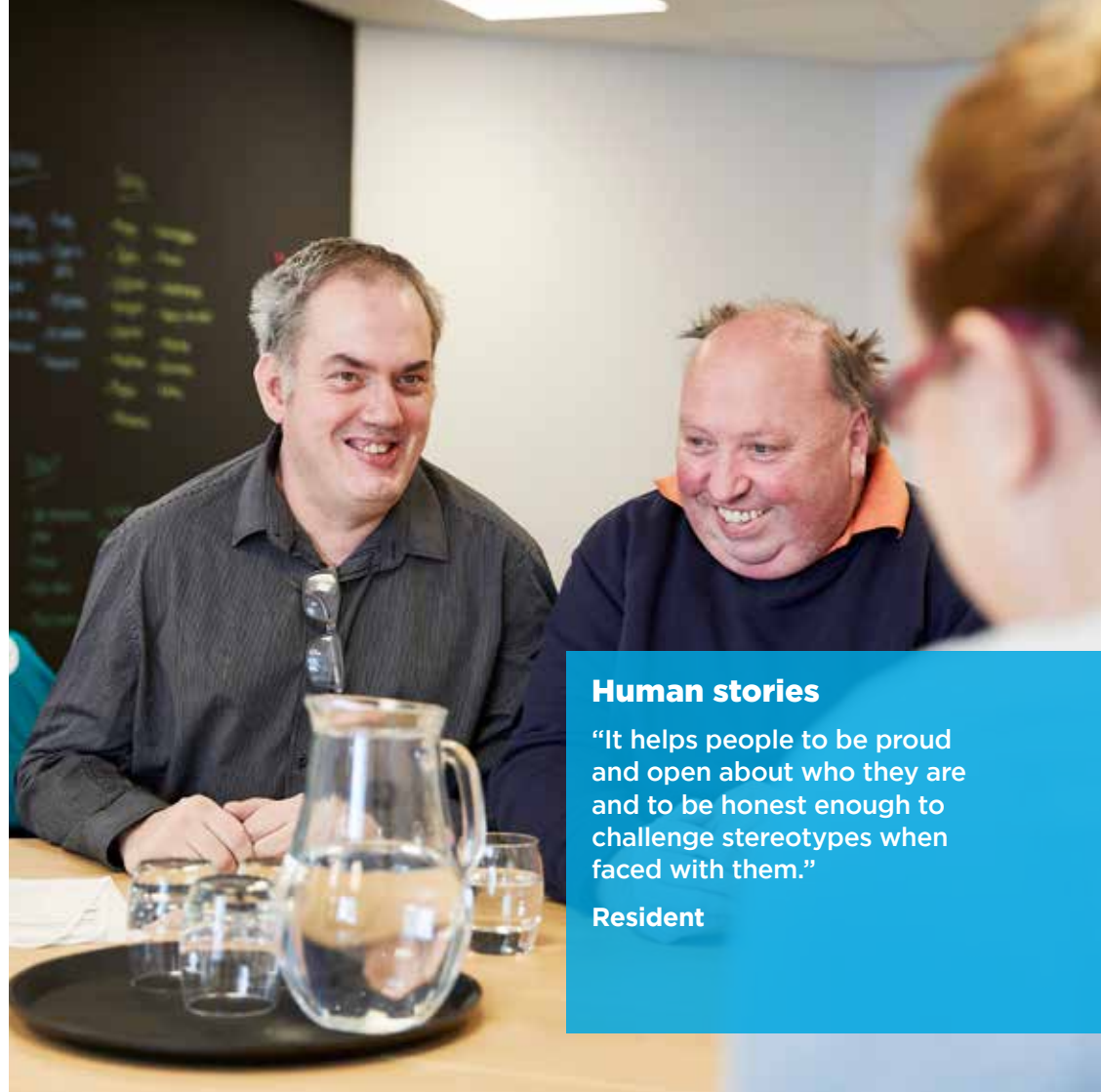
- Being transgender
- Living with a child with autism
- Being a visible Muslim woman
- Coping with mental health in the workplace
- Being a gay parent
- Being an orthodox Jewish woman
- Mental health and drug and alcohol recovery
- Surviving domestic abuse.

How will the Human Library approach benefit our organisation?

Human library sessions allow residents, colleagues and even contractors and partner agencies to understand their similarities and differences. It offers a safe time and place to challenge stigma, stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination.

Breaking down barriers between resident, housing staff and contractors leads to better working relationships and improved services for all.

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Human stories

“It helps people to be proud and open about who they are and to be honest enough to challenge stereotypes when faced with them.”

Resident

Human Library workshops

Tpas and Home Group have come together to offer two workshops to support housing organisations develop the Human Library approach within their own organisation.

Our workshops are designed to encourage participation and are an enjoyable and practical investment for your organisation.

Human stories

“It was good to be able to share some personal information with my colleagues – it will strengthen our relationships.”

Housing Staff



Introduction to the Human Library approach

This workshop provides an interactive introduction to developing and using a Human Library approach to engagement and inclusion.

Workshop content

- Find out how Home Group have developed their Human Library
- Look at how this model can be used as an effective tool for understanding our tenants, residents and communities
- Consider the benefits of taking a Human Library approach
- Experience ‘life swap’

- Explore your options and opportunities for developing your own Human Library

Learning outcomes

- Understanding of the Human Library approach and its application
- Understanding of resources required to set up and run a Human Library
- Action plan for developing your own Human Library

Audience

This workshop is aimed at tenants and staff from all business areas and roles

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How to run a Life Swap event

Modelled on the principles of speed dating, 'life swap' offers tenants, residents, staff and contractors the chance to meet people from diverse groups and backgrounds, and hear about their lives and experiences in a safe, non-judgmental environment. This workshop provides an engaging introduction to delivering successful 'life swap' events.

Workshop content

- Find out about 'life swap' and how it works
- Experience 'life swap' in action
- Explore tools and tips for developing and telling personal stories

- Consider practical arrangements and ground rules for creating the right environment
- Explore your options and opportunities for delivering 'life swap' at your organisation

Learning outcomes

- Understanding of 'life swap' and its benefits and application
- Tools, confidence and skills to deliver your own 'life swap' event
- Plan for delivering your own 'life swap' events

Audience

This workshop is aimed at tenants and staff from all business areas and roles

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Human stories

"It was inspirational. Hearing residents present themselves and their lives so openly and honestly is an inspiration to me and I'll take that away with me."

Contractor



The Human Library approach helps residents and housing staff break down stigma and challenge stereotypes.

Start your Human Library journey today.

**Book online at tpas.org.uk
or call 0161 868 3500.**

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