

# About us

Search  
Demonstrate  
Influence



JOSEPH ROWNTREE  
FOUNDATION



JOSEPH ROWNTREE  
HOUSING TRUST

# What we do

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) and Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust (JRHT) are two independent charities that work together to understand the root causes of social problems, identify ways of overcoming them, and show how social needs can be met in practice.

JRF is an endowed foundation that funds a large, UK-wide research and development programme. JRHT is a registered housing association, managing around 2,500 homes, and is a registered provider of care services.

Our purpose is to **influence** policy and practice by **searching** for evidence and **demonstrating** solutions to improve:

- the circumstances of people experiencing poverty and disadvantage;
- the quality of their homes and communities;
- the nature of the services and support that foster their well-being and citizenship.

JRF and JRHT have no political affiliations and work in partnership with all sectors – private, public and voluntary.

We aim to present evidence in a balanced, unbiased way and to stimulate debate on current and emerging issues.

In all our work, we look to reflect the diversity of the UK population, learn from others and operate in a sustainable way – socially, environmentally and economically – finding practical and realistic solutions and focusing on the needs of disadvantaged people. Through our housing, community and care services, we aim to achieve the highest professional standards.

Most of our work centres on the interconnected themes of poverty, place and empowerment, which are explored further in this leaflet. In 2009–2011 we will also continue to look at some of the themes that emerged from our social evils programme, launched in 2007 to understand people's perceptions of social evil in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



## Search

a place to get the facts  
a place to explore  
a place to debate

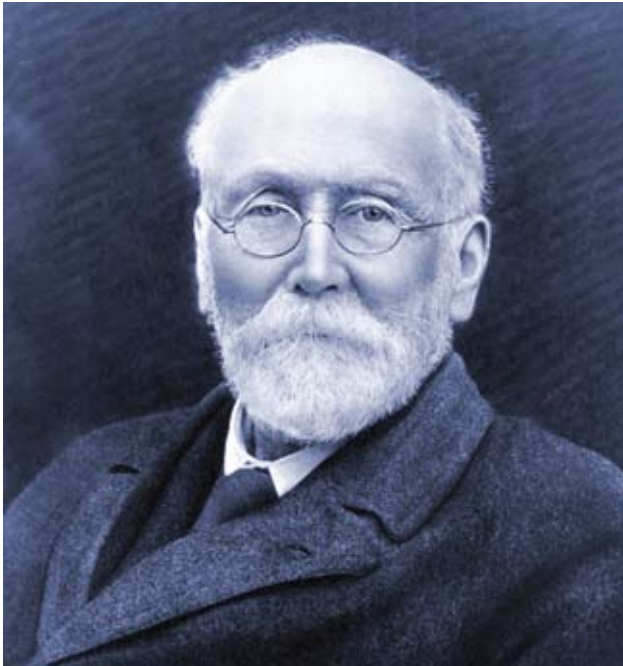
## Demonstrate

a place to understand  
a place to find out how  
a place to innovate

## Influence

a place to share the evidence  
a place to convene  
a place to learn





## Our heritage

Joseph Rowntree (1836–1925) was a Quaker, successful businessman and philanthropist, who with his brother developed the major Rowntree confectionary company from its modest beginnings as a cocoa works in York.

He wanted his money to be used to tackle the root causes of social problems, rather than treating their symptoms. In 1904, he established what was to become the **Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF)**. Then known as the Joseph Rowntree Village Trust, its original purpose was to build and manage the garden village of New Earswick, York.

Since then, JRF's objectives have widened to cover research and development. It currently spends around £10.5 million a year on its research and development programme and on work to take forward key messages.

**The Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust (JRHT)**, established in 1968, provides housing, care homes, retirement and supported housing, and demonstrates new approaches in these areas. It manages around 2,500 homes, half of which are in New Earswick; the remainder are in the City of York and surrounding areas. The Trust also provides retirement and supported housing services in York and other parts of north-east England. It shares trustees and directors with JRF.

Joseph Rowntree also founded two other trusts in 1904: the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust Ltd. The JRF and JRHT are completely independent of these trusts.

Go to: [www.josephrowntree.org.uk](http://www.josephrowntree.org.uk) for more about the four trusts.

## Where we work

JRF and JRHT are York-based organisations that work across the UK. We provide housing and care services in Yorkshire and north-east England.

We have a long-standing interest in **York** and its surrounds – where we are a significant service provider, a major employer, and a key player in the development of the city – and in **Bradford**, where we are committed to a ten-year programme of engagement. Working in partnership with others, we aim to make a positive difference to the people of Bradford by sharing experience and knowledge, funding research and investing in the development of services, and aim to gain knowledge of issues in a diverse community.

# Poverty

Our aim is to examine the root causes of poverty, inequality and disadvantage and to identify solutions.

Our key objectives for 2009–2011 are:

- to monitor child poverty and propose policy solutions to help end it;
- to provide authoritative annual statements on poverty and social exclusion;
- to explore how poverty affects people and families in different ways at different times;
- to implement an anti-poverty strategy within JRHT;

- to explore the nature of contemporary slavery in order to develop practical solutions and influence policy;
- to collect and use evidence that will help to stop or reverse negative drinking cultures and patterns in the UK.

## Emerging ideas are:

- to understand the value, costs and benefits of interventions that enable people to move out of poverty;
- to understand and respond to underlying reasons for variations in low income among different ethnic groups.



# Empowerment

Our aim is to identify ways of enabling people and communities to have control of their own lives.

Our key objectives for 2009–2011 are:

- to contribute to the debate about a fairer, more transparent system of funding long-term care;
- to support groups of people whose voices are seldom heard to be involved in policy, planning and practice;
- to deliver excellent services that encourage people to stay healthy and lead active lives;
- to develop the evidence base on housing with care

for older people, focusing on outcomes and cost-effectiveness;

- to improve the experience of people who use services and live and work in different social care settings;
- to influence society and services to reflect what service users want in their own lives.

## Emerging ideas are:

- to consider the ways risk is managed in social care settings;
- to identify what will ensure better provision and a better life for older people with high support needs.



# Place

Our aim is to contribute to the creation and development of strong, sustainable and inclusive communities.

Our key objectives for 2009–2011 are:

- to inform the debate about affordable housing;
- to provide authoritative annual statements on housing and neighbourhoods;
- to deliver excellent services and effective asset management that demonstrate good long-term stewardship;
- to develop a new 'model' community for the design and management of 21<sup>st</sup> century homes and neighbourhoods;
- to understand more about the housing needs of young people and how policy can best meet them;
- to assess how community assets can contribute to a thriving civil society;
- to find new and more effective ways of engaging residents in developing and managing homes and neighbourhoods.

## One emerging idea is:

- to consider the links between social justice and climate change.



# For more information

Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Joseph Rowntree  
Housing Trust

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This publication can be provided in other formats (such as  
large print, Braille or audio tape).

Contact: Communications, Joseph Rowntree Foundation,  
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[www.jrf.org.uk](http://www.jrf.org.uk)

[www.jrht.org.uk](http://www.jrht.org.uk)

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim  
własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (ہولی) میں بھی میا کی جا سکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

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