

Strategic plan 2009–2011

Search
Demonstrate
Influence



Who we are

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) and the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust (JRHT) are two independent charities that share trustees and directors. JRF is an endowed foundation that funds a large, UK-wide research and development programme, and JRHT is a registered housing association that manages around 2,500 homes, and is a registered provider of care services, in York and north-east England.

Our purpose

We seek to understand the root causes of social problems, to identify ways of overcoming them, and to show how social needs can be met in practice.

We aim 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; and
- the kind of services and support available to them.

Key principles

We are independent, with no political affiliations.

We aim to:

- present evidence in a **clear, balanced and unbiased way**;
- stimulate **debate** on current and emerging issues;
- find practical and realistic **solutions**;
- focus on the needs of the most **disadvantaged people**;
- reflect the the UK population's **diversity** in our work;
- operate in a **sustainable** way (social, economic and environmental);
- work across **all parts of the UK**;
- **learn from others** in all aspects of what we do;
- work in **partnership** with all sectors;
- deliver services of the **highest standards**.

What we are doing in 2009-2011

In addition to the objectives below, we will be exploring emerging issues throughout the life of this three-year plan. Most of our work centres on three themes:

Poverty

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

Key objectives:

- to monitor child poverty and develop policy solutions to bring it to an end;
- 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;
- to help find ways of stopping, or reversing, negative drinking cultures and patterns in the UK.

Place

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

Key objectives:

- to inform the debate on affordable housing;
- to provide authoritative annual statements on housing and neighbourhoods;
- to understand 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 develop a new 'model' community for the design and management of 21st century homes and neighbourhoods;
- to find new and more effective ways of engaging residents in developing and managing homes and neighbourhoods;
- to deliver excellent services and effective management of our land and buildings.

Empowerment

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

Key objectives:

- to contribute to the debate about a fairer, more transparent system of funding long-term care;
- to support groups whose voices are seldom heard so they can be involved in policy, planning and practice;
- to deliver excellent services that encourage people to stay healthy and lead active lives;
- to develop evidence focusing on outcomes and cost-effectiveness in housing with care for older people;
- to improve the experience of people who use services, live and work in different social care settings;
- to help society and services move towards reflecting service users' aspirations for their lives.

Cross-cutting priorities

Social evils: Our work to understand people's perceptions of social evil in the 21st century identified a number of themes that we will consider in our future work.

Creating value and measuring impact: We are committed to using our resources economically, efficiently and effectively to maximise and evaluate the impact of our activities.

A learning culture: We want to maximise the learning between policy and research activity and experience from practice, within JRF and JRHT and more widely.

Where we work

JRF and JRHT are based in **York**, where we are a major employer. We provide housing and care services in York and north-east England, but our work covers the whole of the UK. We also have a long-standing commitment to the city of **Bradford**, where we work in partnership with others to make a positive difference to the people in the city, and gain knowledge of issues in a diverse community.

Search, demonstrate and influence

Search

Robust and reliable evidence from a broad range of sources is crucial in our 'search' work. These include academic research, practical experience of service delivery and consultation with communities, service users and practitioners.

We aim to be:

- **a place to get facts** on issues that affect people experiencing poverty and disadvantage, their homes and communities, and services they receive;
- **a place to explore** issues that are often overlooked;
- **a place to debate** difficult and challenging issues.

Demonstrate

We work with and learn from others to explore and demonstrate best practice in a way that can be assessed and possibly replicated. JRHT is one of the places that can demonstrate good practice and innovation.

We aim to be:

- **a place to understand** the challenges and opportunities facing residents, using our experience of developing and providing homes, care and support;
- **a place to find out** new and different ways of meeting the needs of disadvantaged people and to evaluate these properly.
- **a place to innovate.**

Influence

Our search and demonstrate work needs to be influential to secure real and lasting improvements. Our independence gives us a particular role and responsibility in terms of influence, which enables us to bring together people from different sectors and approaches.

We aim to be:

- **a place to share evidence** in a clear and compelling way;
- **a place to convene**, highlighting needs and solutions, in partnership with others;
- **a place to learn** from practice and share practical solutions.

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 evidence
a place to convene
a place to learn

Contact

Joseph Rowntree Foundation www.jrf.org.uk

Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust www.jrht.org.uk

The Homestead, 40 Water End, York, YO30 6WP

tel: 01904 629241

e-mail: info@jrf.org.uk

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

Contact: Communications, Joseph Rowntree
Foundation, tel: 01904 615905, e-mail: info@jrf.org.uk

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們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 (Polish)
własnym języku.

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)