# Wokingham Positive Difference 2026–27

## Building Better Businesses. Stronger Communities. Better Conversations.

At Wokingham Positive Difference, we believe the most valuable conversations don't happen in isolation.

They happen when businesses, charities, education, local government and our wider community come together to share ideas, challenge thinking and discover new ways to make a positive difference.

Our 2026–27 programme has been designed with exactly that ambition.

Rather than a series of unrelated networking breakfasts, we've created a journey that explores the challenges and opportunities facing today's leaders—from wellbeing and leadership to artificial intelligence, strategy, community investment and the future of local business.

Every event has been designed around one simple principle:

***Create conversations that matter.***

- Some events will inspire.
- Some will challenge.
- Some will entertain.

All will encourage new ideas, new partnerships and new opportunities to work together.
Throughout the year we'll explore questions such as:

- How do we build healthier businesses?
- What can different generations learn from one another?
- How do values shape great leadership?
- What role should Artificial Intelligence play in our future?
- How can coaching unlock better decisions?
- How do we create stronger partnerships across our community?
- What can we learn from each other to build a more resilient local economy?

Our events aren't lectures. They're experiences.

You will find storytelling, panel discussions, audience participation, practical demonstrations, interviews, coaching, debate, live music and plenty of opportunities to contribute your own ideas.

Most importantly, you'll meet people who genuinely want to make Wokingham and the wider Thames Valley an even better place to live, work and do business.

## Our 2026–27 Programme

| Event | Date | Focus |
|---|---|---|
| **Fit for Business** | *4 September 2026* | Supporting healthier leaders and healthier organisations. |
| **Big Budget Breakfast** | *30 October 2026* | Making sense of the Chancellor's announcements and what they mean for local organisations. |
| **Working Better Together** | *20 November 2026* | Unlocking the strengths of every generation in today's workplace. |
| **What the Dickens!** | *11 December 2026* | A Victorian Christmas with timeless lessons for modern business. |
| **Growing Your Business** | *15 January 2027* | Sharing ideas, opportunities and practical routes to sustainable growth. |
| **Future Ready** | *26 February 2027* | Sustainability and Environment - Preparing organisations for a rapidly changing world. |
| **The Strategy Room** | *19 March 2027* | Shaping the future, balancing short term pressures with long term ambitions. |
| **Keeping Marketing Human in the Age of AI** | *23 April 2027* | Where human creativity meets Artificial Intelligence. |
| **Speed Coaching and Networking** | *21 May 2027* | Fresh perspectives, better questions and new ways of thinking. |
| **Bright Minds, Real Business** | *25 June 2027* | Connecting academic expertise with business opportunity |
| **Making the Greatest Impact** | *16 July 2027* | Community - Making every pound, every hour and every partnership count. |

# Help Shape the Programme

Wokingham Positive Difference has always been built by its members.

As our programme grows, we'd love more people to become involved—not simply by attending events, but by helping create them.

There are many ways to contribute:

- **Event Working Groups** – helping to shape themes, speakers and audience experiences.
- **Membership & Welcome Team** – ensuring every visitor feels part of our community.
- **Speaker & Partnership Team** – introducing inspiring speakers and developing new collaborations.
- **Community Connections** – strengthening relationships with businesses, charities, education and local government.
- **Ideas & Innovation** – bringing fresh thinking and new event concepts to the programme.

You don't need to make a huge commitment. Even a few hours during the year can make a significant difference.

Together, we can continue building an organisation that not only connects people, but inspires them to work together for the benefit of our businesses, our communities and future generations.

**Because the biggest positive differences are rarely made alone.**