

Hot Topics

Hot Topic events are 60-minute learning events, designed and facilitated by group members, for group members.

Each group will be allocated a Hot Topic according to their Peer Group number.

Here are the allocated themes for each Peer Group:

Module 2: "Prioritising the right work" (Peer Group 1)

Module 3: "Authentic personal impact" (Peer Group 2)

Module 4: "Communicating in a virtual world" (Peer Group 3)

Module 5: "Raising your profile" (**All Peer Groups**)

You can work with the theme as it is or, if you prefer, you can narrow your theme down to something more specific – it's up to you.

There are many ways you can approach your Hot Topic:

- The more imaginative and participative the approach, the greater the impact.
- It helps to be clear about what you want your Hot Topic to achieve – this will help to inform the approach you take.
- Think about what resources you have. How can you make best use of them to achieve your desired result?
- It's a perfect opportunity to expand your network by inviting guest speakers to join the session in person.
- Think of yourselves as facilitators rather than presenters. Questions are more stimulating than answers.
- It's useful to structure your presentation in a way that is engaging and interesting for the participants. Taking turns to present sections/activities allows everyone to practice.
- Suggestions: short presentation by a speaker (external or internal) or a brief presentation by a group member, followed by a group exercise and/or a structured discussion. Previous examples include 'Question Time' style debates, films of compiled interviews, exploring case studies, series of roleplays, self-assessment questionnaires, 'expert' speakers, café discussions etc.
- The only way you can get this 'wrong' is by turning it into a problem to be solved rather than an opportunity to be gained from!

Important!

The final Hot Topic at Module 5 will work differently; each peer group will work separately and deliver a presentation to an invited audience (perhaps your line manager/counter-signing manager or anyone else you feel can help you achieve your career choices). This presentation is an opportunity to show what you have to offer and to 'raise your profile' with some of the people who have an influence over your career.

FAQs

Hot Topic Timings

Your Peer Group will deliver your Hot Topic on your self-directed day of each module (Day 2 of the module) to the whole cohort, except for the final one which is delivered just within your own Peer Group (plus guests). Each Peer Group is responsible for setting up and inviting the rest of the cohort to their Hot Topic event. We suggest 11.00am for your Hot Topic meeting but you are free to change that if necessary, for example, a speaker can't attend that time.

Zoom? Teams? Google Hangouts?

Thresholds use Zoom for all our delivery as we prefer the functionality it offers. However, that might not be the default platform you are comfortable with. Your Peer Group is responsible for choosing your preferred platform and sending out the invites to the rest of the group. You can contact everyone in your cohort or just your group from your dashboard.

Is there a budget?

Thresholds do not have a budget for Hot Topics. There shouldn't be any cost incurred.

How do we ensure that we don't duplicate what the facilitator will be covering in the rest of the module?

We have carefully chosen the Hot Topic themes to complement the other topics we will cover in the module. If in doubt, please refer to the Module Agenda on your dashboard.

Can Thresholds help?

The Thresholds team are there if you have any general enquiries. We really encourage Peer Groups to work together on the Hot Topics. It's such a great opportunity to use your initiative and creativity and to reach out and use your networks. This is your chance to run things for 30-60 minutes!

