

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE. Date: 1st October 2025

NeuroPlaces Launches UK's First B2B Exhibition & Conference for Neuroinclusive Public Place Design. London, UK – NeuroPlaces today announces its official launch. Brought to you by BN3 Events.

NeuroPlaces 2026 takes place next year at Business Design Centre, London, on the 29th & 30th October 2026. It convenes venue operators, architects, designers, technologists, and policymakers to tackle the urgent challenge of making shared public environments more inclusive for neurodivergent individuals. With up to 15-20% of the UK population estimated to be neurodivergent, silent exclusion is widespread. The Purple Pound spending power figure of £247 billion further indicates a lack of accessibility in most public places. Neuroinclusion is more vital now than ever before; both socially and economically.

Angie Farrance, Senior Policy Officer at Greater London Authority, highlights "one of the Mayor's aims for a fairer and more inclusive London is where everyone, whether resident, visitor or worker, is able to participate and enjoy all that the city has to offer. Through policies like the London Plan and initiatives like the Dementia Friendly Venues Charter, we work with partners across the capital to ensure best practice related to inclusive and accessible design is adopted. We welcome NeuroPlaces developing this conference to support businesses and venues in making their spaces more welcoming for neurodivergent people."

The launch is supported by a growing coalition of industry leaders and advocates committed to closing the inclusion gap in public life.

- Host Sponsor: Business Design Centre, London
- Supporters & Partners: Transport for London, National Autistic Society, Greater London Authority, London Convention Bureau, EventWell, Nook Sensory Pods, Thrive Neurodiversity & Mental Health, Welcome Brain, Beaumont Bailey & BETA, ABPCO, Neurodiversity Architecture Network.
- Advisory Board members include: Jean Hewitt (Buro Happold), Amy Edgar (TfL), Andy Williamson (Welcome Brain), Helen Moon (EventWell), David O'Coimin (Nook Sensory Pods) and Simon Nichols (Thrive Neurodiversity and Mental Health).

Voices of Support

Max Bull, Executive Director of Venue Sales - BDC: "We're delighted to have been chosen as the host venue for the launch of NeuroPlaces 2026 and are excited to work alongside Nathan and the team in delivering an event that showcases the importance of designing with neurodiversity in mind. Being able to learn from and collaborate on this event provides an opportunity to demonstrate the vital role we all play in creating environments that truly reflect the diversity of human experiences."

Jean Hewitt, Technical Lead, Inclusive Environments - Buro Happold. Hon Associate Professor, the Bartlett - UC. Trustee - Changing Places International: "I'm excited to see first-hand the inspiring plans coming together for next year's event, which I am sure will be incredible - it's the first of its kind and to have this on our doorstep is wonderful. I have high hopes of this being a gamechanger for many businesses and, most importantly, neurodivergent people who deserve places where they feel welcomed and enabled to flourish."

Emma Strain, Customer Director - TfL: "It's vital that all neurodivergent people are able to realise their potential. Using public transport, and feeling safe and comfortable whilst doing so, is a key part of this. The NeuroPlaces conference will be a fantastic opportunity for us to exchange new perspectives with other



organisations and individuals, that will help build on the actions in our customer inclusion plan, Equity in Motion, to make London's transport network as accessible and inclusive as possible."

Christine Flintoft-Smith, Head of Autism Accreditation and Projects - The National Autistic Society: "Making visitor attractions and public venues more accessible for neurodivergent people is not just a nice-to-have—it's a necessity. When inclusion is built into the experience, autistic people and their families can enjoy days out with confidence and comfort. We applied those leading the way and encourage all venues to follow their example in creating spaces where everyone feels welcome."

A Platform for Change

NeuroPlaces features a dynamic conference programme of 30+ sessions, alongside an exhibition showcasing cutting-edge solutions across sensory design, assistive technology, inclusive architecture, wayfinding and more. **Nook Sensory Pods** provide human-centred recovery spaces, providing acoustic, visual, and psychological refuge for people who experience overstimulation, stress, or sensory fatigue. Founder, **David O'Coimin**, stresses the importance of an event like NeuroPlaces in bringing together individuals doing great but often isolated work - in hope of "unleashing this nation's neuropotential". **Founding Director, Luisa Pereira Pires at Neurodiversity Architecture Network CIC**, echoes this sentiment and states "awareness of the PAS 6463 is a good start but we need more practical collaborations between businesses if we are going to witness any meaningful improvements".

Welcome Brain Consulting brings expertise in neuroinclusive design, practical toolkits, and lived insight to ensure that the launch "showcases what's possible when accessibility and inclusion are embedded from the start" (**Andy Williamson, Managing Director**). A transition zone, quiet zones, sensory rooms, and lived experience voices will be built into the event experience, ensuring it reflects the very principles it champions. **EventWell** will shape the sensory calm space through their "commitment to creating spaces where neurodivergent people are not only welcomed, but truly celebrated" (**Helen Moon, CEO & Founding Director**).

Nathan & Eliza Reuby, Founders - NeuroPlaces: "NeuroPlaces is not just an event, it's a platform for collaboration, action & change. With the support of leading organisations across transport, culture, design, and inclusion, we're setting out to create a benchmark for neuroinclusive public place design in the UK and beyond. As parents of an autistic child, we are deeply mission-led. After all, neurodiversity exists all around us - it's about time public places caught up".

Event Details

Dates: 29-30 October 2026

• Venue: Business Design Centre, London

- **Audience**: Venue operators (transport, culture, retail, stadia), architects, designers, technologists, access consultants, policymakers.
- **Features**: Conference programme, exhibition, quiet zones, sensory spaces, innovation showcase, live demos, startup pods, networking areas.

With its official launch now underway, NeuroPlaces is inviting organisations to register their interest in sponsoring or exhibiting at the event - an opportunity to position themselves as leaders in neuroinclusive innovation and connect directly with the operators and decision-makers shaping the future of public spaces.

For more information or to get involved, visit <u>www.neuro-places.com</u> or contact <u>hello@neuro-places.com</u>.