

B329 – Week by Week

Developed by Andi Roberts



**The Open
University**

1 Introduction to leadership in turbulent times

Students explore:

- What do we mean by leadership and turbulence, and which theory can help to understand and explain leadership in turbulent times?
- Why is it important to think critically about some of the phenomena occurring in our changing world?
- Why are social networks important for contemporary leadership?

Content

- Complexity leadership theory
- Adaptive leadership
- Critical thinking (disruptive technologies)
- Leadership & social networks



2 Turbulent contexts: the socio-political environment of precarity

Students explore:

- What are the forces that have driven an increase in precarity, in the UK and around the world?
- Who are the people primarily affected by precarity?
- How can we better understand precarity through experience?

Content

- Defining precarity & its implications for leadership
- Causes of precarity
- Who is the precariat
- Precarious lives in and between work
- Is precarity the future for most of us?



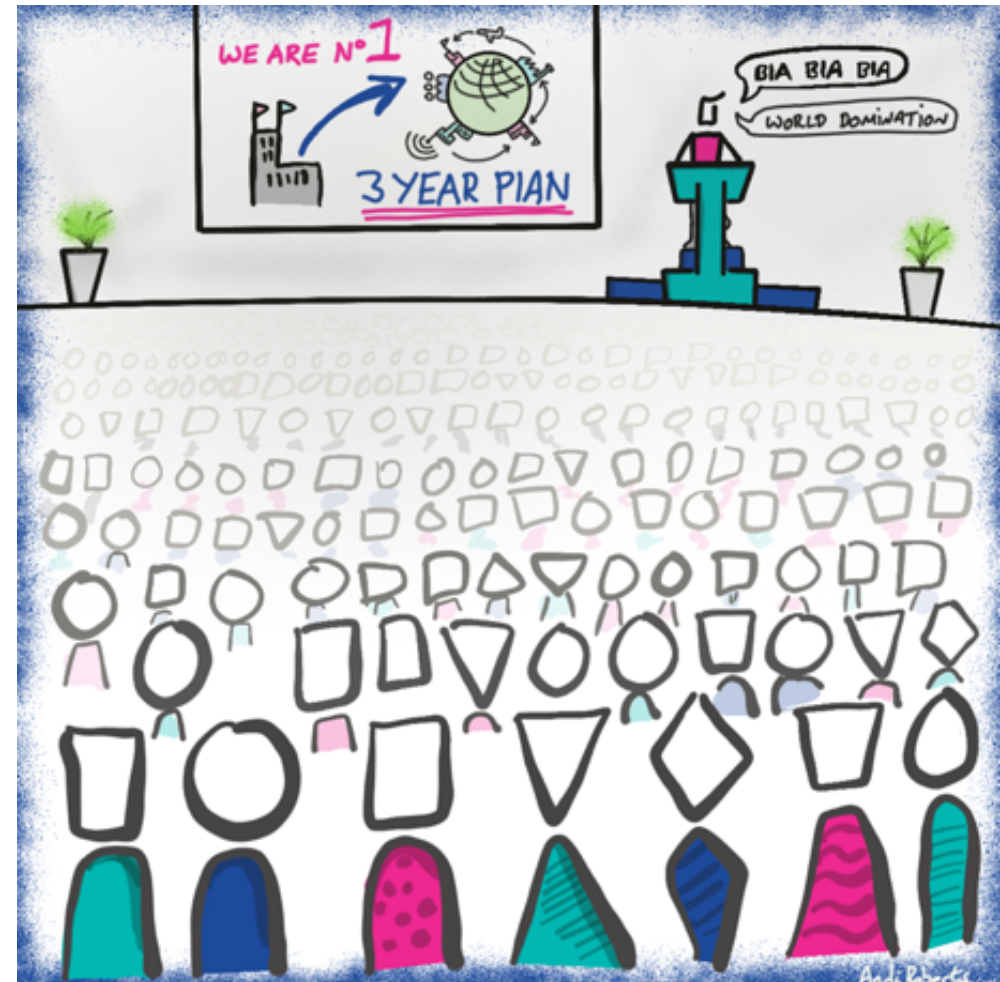
3 Turbulent contexts: leadership and populism

Students explore:

- What is populism?
- Why are examples of populism arising in contemporary society?
- What forms of leadership are seen in populist movements, and what are the characteristics of populist leadership?

Content

- What is populism
- Populism in contemporary society
- Charismatic leadership
- Charisma and the populist leader
- Case study
- Reflecting on populist political leadership



4 leadership in a multicultural world

Students explore:

- What is culture and why does it have a substantial impact on leadership?
- What are the key differences in how leadership is thought about and practised in different cultures, and how does this affect leadership in a multicultural world?
- Can a multicultural approach to leadership be adopted that takes into account many different cultures and if so, how can such an approach be developed?

Content

- Developing a deeper understanding of culture
- Leadership and culture
- Leading multicultural organisations
- Developing a global mindset



5 Leading through turbulent contexts

Students explore:

- How are precarity, populism and multiculturalism represented in public discourse?
- How could I better understand the different perspectives of leadership?
- How are blog posts relevant to contemporary leadership?

Content

- Exploring perspectives of leadership (interviewing)
- Planning and writing a blog post
- Leads into TMA





7 Seeking leadership identity in turbulent spaces

Students explore:

- What's the difference between an administrator, a manager and a leader?
- What's your leadership identity and how can you influence it?
- How can you become an inspiring leader?

Content

- Constructing a leadership identity: Identity construction & multiple identities
- Leader, manager or administrator? Roles
- Becoming an inspiring leader
- Managing the impressions of others - Evaluating and changing your leadership identity



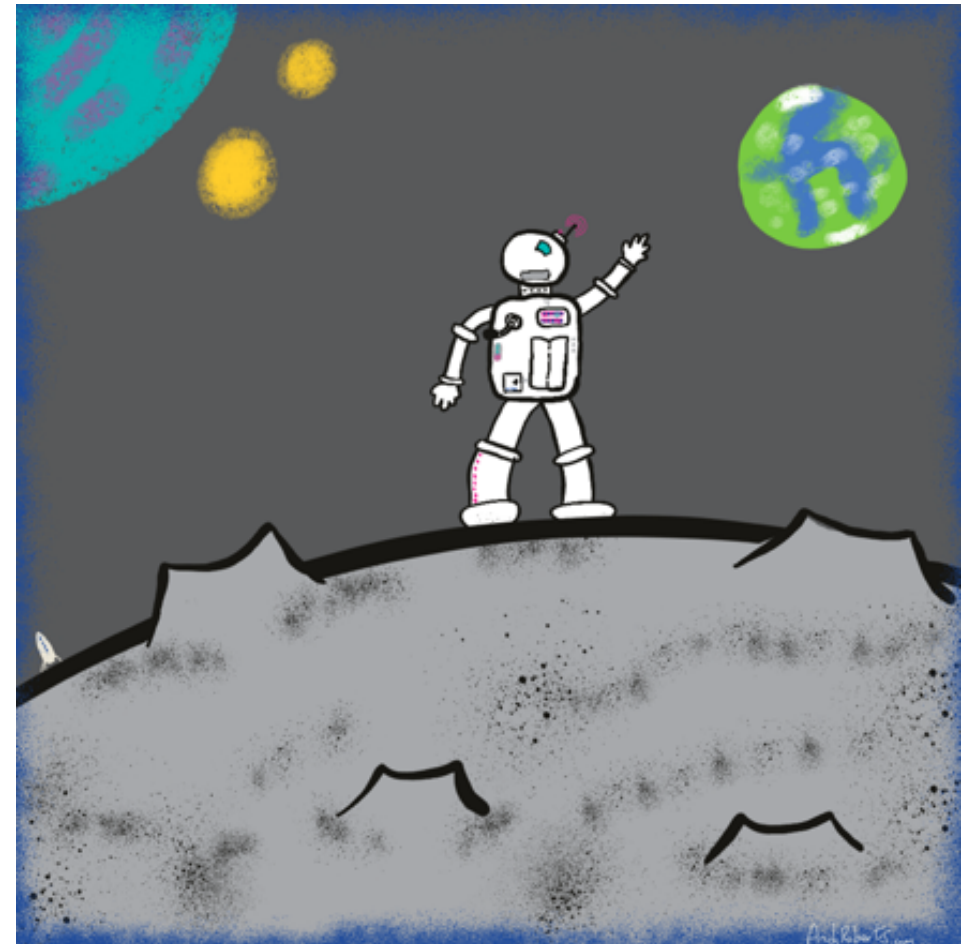
8 Inclusiveness, diversity and boundaryless leadership

Students explore:

- What do we mean by inclusiveness and diversity in leadership?
- What are the main leadership styles and competencies for boundaryless leadership?
- How can we enable leadership beyond boundaries?

Content

- Exploring inclusion and diversity
- Leadership styles
- Leadership styles
- Boundaryless leadership
- Global leadership competencies



9 Developing positive relationships and collaborations

Students explore:

- What is collaboration and why is it important?
- What are the main leadership activities that can support collaboration?
- What are the main qualities of collaborative leadership?

Content

- Understanding collaboration: Importance, assessment & becoming more collaborative
- Using leadership to support collaboration: Other ways leaders can support collaboration & Collaborative leadership
- Assessing and sharing your knowledge
- Block case study



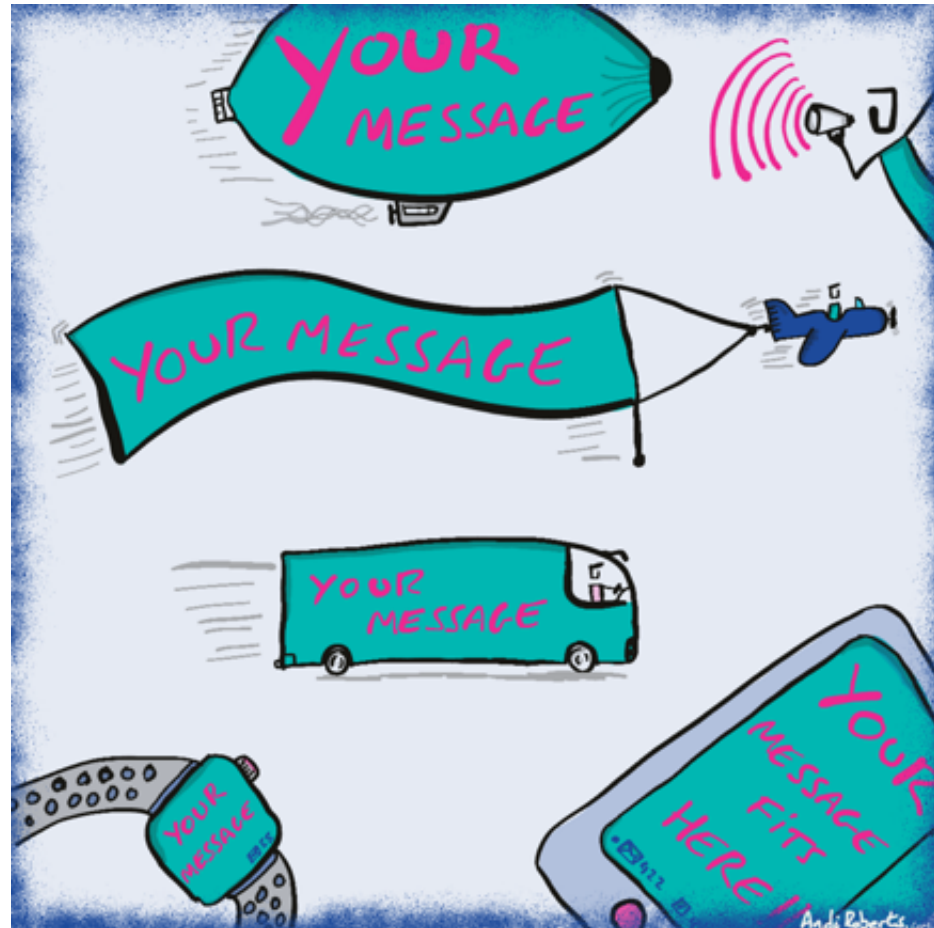
10 Mobilising followers

Students explore:

- How does a 'networked' understanding of society change the practice of leadership and followership in society and in organisations?
- How do people without a formal position of influence make a difference to the leadership of a project, organisation or place?
- What kind of strategies mobilise people in a networked society?

Content

- Leading and following in a networked society
- Leadership through relationships
- A relational perspective on leadership of place
- Leading the relational organisation
- Follower-centred leadership
- How does influence happen?
- Relational leadership strategies



11 Coping with conflict and change

Students explore:

- What causes conflict in changing environments?
- Is the task of leadership always to reduce conflict?
- How do leadership practices and strategies encourage constructive outcomes from conflict?

Content

- Change, leadership and conflict
- Leading change
- Competing interests and objectives
- Constructive dissent



12 Leadership as a positive-sum game

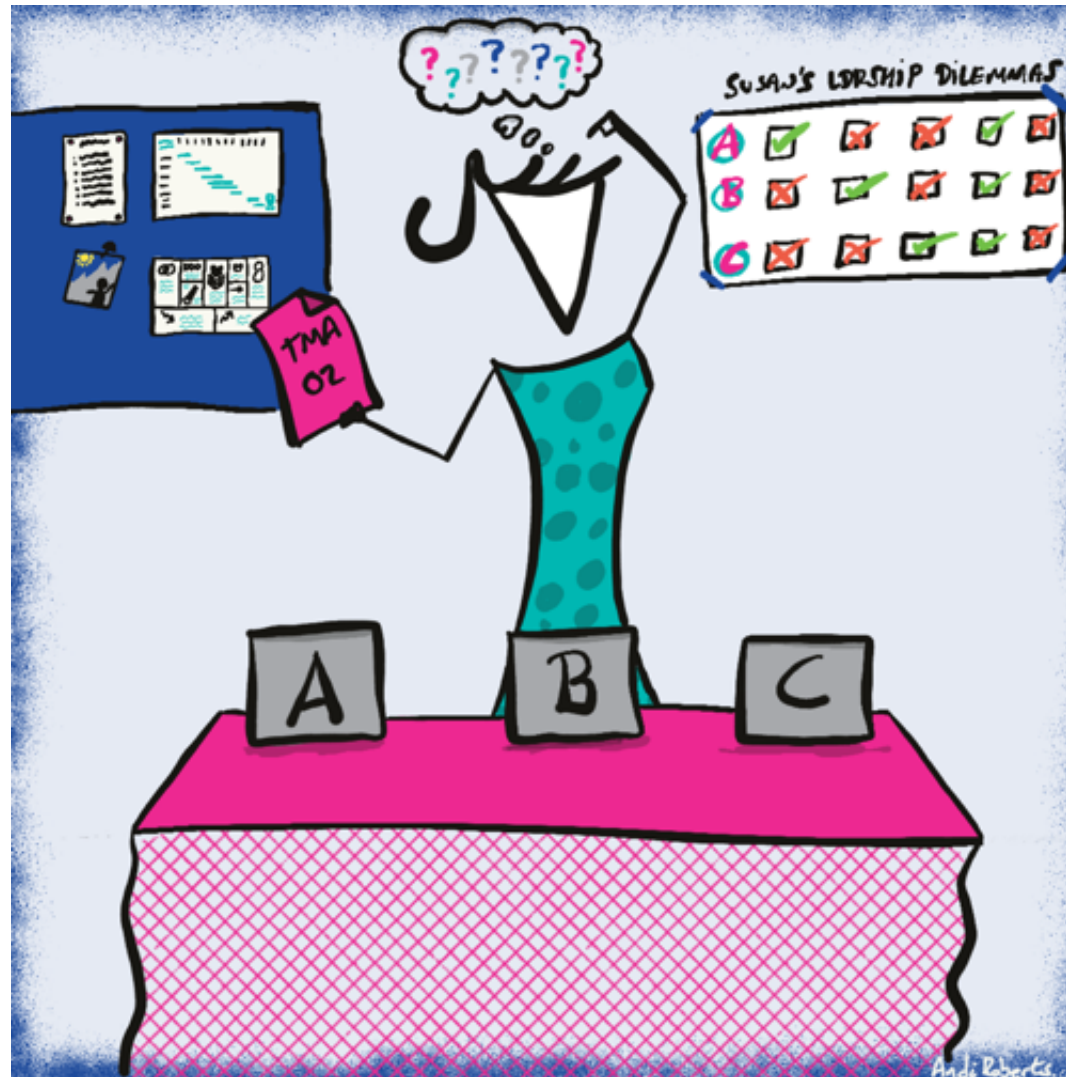
Students explore:

- What are positive, negative and zero-sum approaches to leadership?
- In what ways is collaboration a leadership strategy that achieves positive-sum outcomes?
- What are the limitations of a positive-sum approach to leadership?

Content

- Positive, negative and zero-sum games
- Leadership narratives
- Collaboration: a positive-sum game?
- Competing aims
- Managing aims for positive-sum outcomes
- Achieving the common good
- Limitations of the positive-sum approach to leadership





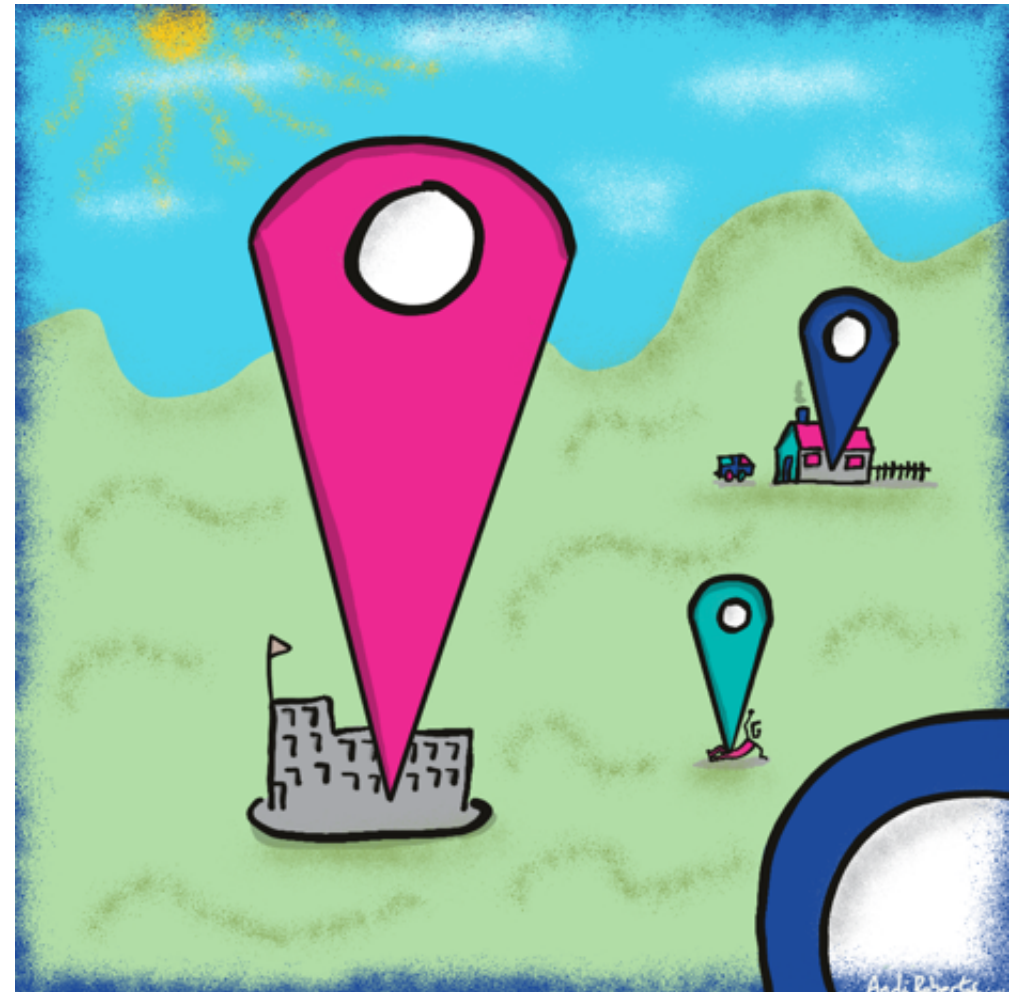
14 Place-based leadership

Students explore:

- What types of tame, wicked and critical challenges do leaders face and how do they tackle them?
- What is the #B329LeadershipChallenge and how can you get involved?
- What is place-based leadership and what kinds of challenges does it address?

Content

- Leadership challenges: Identifying challenges, Prioritising issues, Tame, wicked and critical challenges
- #B329LeadershipChallenge
- Place-based leadership



15 Resistance leadership

Students explore:

- What is resistance leadership and why is it important?
- What are some examples of different forms of resistance leadership?
- How can ideas of resistance leadership support your own thinking and practice of leadership?

Content

- Defining resistance leadership
- Power and resistance framework
- Resistance leadership in practice
- Choosing, developing and sharing your response to the #B329LeadershipChallenge
- Representations in your #B329LeadershipChallenge



16 Activist leadership

Students explore:

- Can purpose provide leadership for activist groups?
- How do activists work with diversity and difference to deliver democratic forms of leadership?
- What kind of leadership do precarious worker activists practise?

Content

- The purpose of activist leadership
- Democratic practices of activist leadership: Who are 'the people' in democratic leadership practice?
Building coalitions of leadership: Conflict and democratic practice
- Precarious leadership: Precarious leadership - barriers and possibilities - The bonds of precarious leadership - Relational infrastructure and ethical responsiveness, Technology and precarious leadership, Hybrid precarious leadership



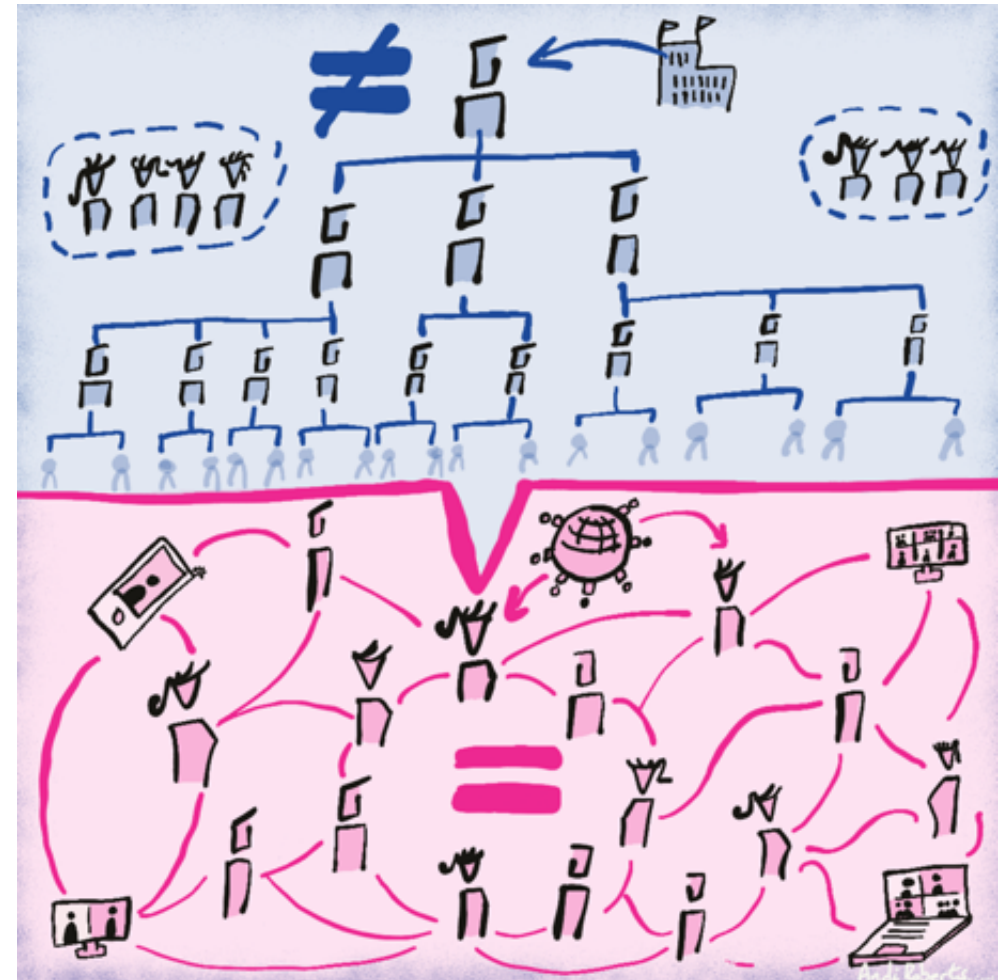
17 Leadership and social change

Students explore:

- What is social change?
- What is storytelling and why is it important for leadership?
- Why is reframing a discourse an important leadership practice for social change?

Content

- Defining social change
- Controversial social change
- Social change organisations
- Leadership-as-practice: applying the social change leadership framework
- Leadership and storytelling
- Reframing a discourse



18 Your #B329LeadershipChallenge

Students explore:

- How will you develop a convincing call to action?
- What are the four practices of writing to persuade?
- What are the requirements of the EMA?

Content

- #B329LeadershipChallenge call to action
- Planning and drafting your call to action
- Finalising and launching your call to action

- Leads into EMA

