



# Wisdom in Leadership

**From 6pm on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May until 11.15am on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>**

This Conversation is all about accessing a deeper discerning; stepping out of the day to day to sense into what is really going on below the surface – both externally in terms of the dynamics of events and internally in terms of what is stirring or moving in ourselves. There is probably no better place to do this kind of work than in the unique atmosphere of St George's House and in company of fellow leaders of the calibre and integrity to be able to support and challenge each other in their enquiry.

The Conversation will follow a process in which we take stock of the big questions we are facing into and then explore the deeper resources available within and around us for stepping into these questions – questions that may lead to substantive change, both in our own leadership and in our wider organisations. It may be that you have a nagging sense that something different is needed from you as a leader. Or it may simply be that you are finding yourself caught in a degree of overload that you need to break free from. In such times of genuine leadership transition there are no ready answers, there is no established path. The essential challenge is how we figure out what to do when we don't know what to do. At such times we need a different kind of knowing. And that is what we access together in this Conversation.

Part of the art of stepping into significant change is discerning how to:

- **Let go** – of old patterns and responses that may have served us well but are no longer needed
- **Let be** – the forces for growth and change that we need to embrace and work with
- **Let come** – the emergent knowing and capability that we don't even know we know yet.

These will be key questions to explore in this conversation and they take time – and usually a second or third look. It is often only with the help of the shared wisdom of fellow leaders who have absolutely no stake in our situation that we are able to get a clear, uncluttered perspective on these things.

This Conversation will also be built around a set of 'wisdom practices' that will sustain us on an ongoing basis as we face into more complexity, challenge and

uncertainty. These are about accessing the intelligence of body, heart and soul as well as mind. Again, it is also about garnering the shared insight and wisdom that only a group of mature fellow leaders can provide – people with no stake in each other's outcomes, but with the capacity and desire to be real with each other; who will hold up the mirror to you and help us see what is really there.

By the end of this Conversation we will have helped each other come to a new clarity about our leadership focus to see things in a fresh perspective, bringing a new clarity and inner confidence into a new phase of our leadership. We often express the benefits of this kind of work in terms of three core qualities:

- **Space:** an inner calm and presence that enables us to make clear judgements with...
- **Pace:** the capacity to act decisively or patiently bide our time as needed, and to act with....
- **Grace:** respectful of the wisdom, insights, needs and perspectives of others.