



PE RealDeals LIVE }

Powering the midmarket

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7 May 2026 | 133 Houndsditch, London

Agenda



INNOVATION
RESILIENCE
GROWTH

This is a preliminary agenda. Timings, titles and topics are subject to change.

8:00–9:00

Get in. Gear up. Get talking.

Welcome to PE Live. Grab your badge and get ready for the day.

9:10–9:15

Game on:

This is where it gets interesting

Find your seat. The room's full of opportunity—go find yours.

9:15–9:35

Opening keynote:

Burn the playbook

The game's changed: new rules, new players, new momentum.

9:35–10:05

The activist LP

From partner to player

Paymasters are no longer just funding, they're calling the shots.

LPs are ditching the sidelines, pushing for transparency, and getting gritty with strategy.

This session breaks down the new LP/GP game: managing hands-on partners and riding the rise of direct and co-investment deals.

10:05-10:35

No exit, no cry?

Do continuation funds, recaps and ReFis really lead to happy returns?

Valuation gaps, pricey debt, and an unattractive IPO market have narrowed exits. But liquidity finds a way: meet the fixers behind continuation funds, recaps, and ReFis.

10:35-10:55

Keynote: Gen Z at work

Mythbusting the next workforce

What Gen Z wants from work, and what midmarket leaders need to do to keep up.

10:55-11:40

Espresso yourself:

Refuel, reconnect, and start those awkwardly fruitful conversations you came here for.

11:25-11:45

Next-Gen rising:

Culture in motion

The rules of the game have changed, and so has the culture. A new breed of midmarket leaders doesn't follow playbooks – they make them.

11:15-15:05

Three stages of business-critical content

Sector Trends <i>Unlock. Build. Exit.</i>		Deal Lab <i>Value in action</i>	Future of PE <i>Redefining returns.</i>
11:45- 12:05 Industrials strength: Where innovation meets investment Industrial tech is where smart money gets scrappy. Find out where the returns are hiding.	11:15- 11:45 Forget what you knew: AI is rewriting the due diligence rules AI-first, venture-backed diligence tools are disrupting how midmarket PE gets smart on deals. Get your hands dirty.	11:45- 12:15 Wealth on the move: are you ready for the retail rush? The retailisation wave is real. GPs are learning to price, allocate, and operate differently. Is the mid-market ready to swim — or sink?	12:15- 12:45 Battle-tested: Inside the CEO's war room Former portfolio CEOs spill what it actually takes to drive growth, lead through chaos, and deliver returns when the pressure's on. Raw lessons, real scars, and the truths GPs need to hear.
12:05- 12:25 Bursting the bubble? AI euphoria meets reality What happens when the hype fades and the hard problems hit? How to stay afloat when the AI tide turns.	11:45- 12:30 Crack the code: Benchmark your value creation strategy What's actually driving value right now? Join this no-BS strategy lab to compare, steal, and sharpen your approach.		
12:30- 13:45 Refuel & connect <i>Good food. Great people. Deals may or may not be whispered.</i>			
13:30- 13:50 Behind the capital curtain: Financial services trends GPs & LPs can't afford to miss What's shaping financial services from both sides of the table?	13:45- 14:30 What kind of dealmaker are you? And is it working? A workshop that'll show you what others see, and how to close smarter because of it.	13:45- 14:25 Private equity's ESG dilemma: Finding the sweet spot Where's the line between purpose and performance? This is ESG for grown-ups: pragmatic, profit-aligned, and painfully overdue.	
13:50- 14:10 Investing in defence: Smart bet or minefield? Regulation, volatility, and politics make this sector tough, but the upside is massive. Are you bold enough?	14:30- 15:00 Real AI. Real opportunities. Real results. Buzzwords aside, these are the AI case studies that made money. Learn what worked and how to copy it.	14:25- 15:05 Talent trouble - UK edition: Regulations, retention & the talent crunch UK policy is squeezing talent strategy. Learn how PE firms are adapting before the squeeze becomes a choke.	
14:10- 14:30 Healthtech that actually works: Bold moves, better care The future of health is efficient, data-driven, and investable. This is how it's playing out.			

14:45-15:30

The deal break (and make)

Step out, slow down, or lean into that unexpected intro that could turn into your next deal. You know the drill.

15:30-16:00

Women in PE:

Driving value, creating change

This isn't about box-ticking. It's about influence, returns, and leadership that's changing the game.

16:00-16:25

Spotlight interview:

The story behind the strategy

A candid conversation with someone who's shaped the industry, and isn't done yet.

16:25-16:55

Closing keynote:

Bold leadership = Bigger returns

What separates the PE leaders who make noise from the ones who make legacy? Here's the answer.

16:55-17:00

Endgame:

Your move

One final challenge to take home and act on

17:00-19:00

Drinks & deals

The sessions are over, but the deals are just beginning. Stay sharp.

Get involved



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A dark, blue-tinted photograph of a crowd of people seen from behind, serving as the background for the bottom section of the page.

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