People's Economy training offer

To enquire about our workshops or make a booking, please contact our Head of Training, Marion Sharples on marion.sharples@peopleseconomyuk.org

What we're offering and why

UK communities face many crises including housing, work, living standards, poverty, the environment and inequality. Many of these are rooted in our economic system, yet most people feel shut out of conversations about these issues, and unable to influence the economy around them.

People's Economy's one-off workshops and multi-session courses build power among communities experiencing economic injustice to build their confidence and knowledge around the economic root causes of issues they care about, and explore practical solutions.

Who our workshops are for

We offer workshops to all sorts of groups, from community centres to unions to campaign groups and other changemakers. We currently run programmes working with groups in North Wales, Birmingham, Hartlepool and London and with the migrant justice and youth organising sectors and an emerging community of practice to connect people across areas. We're also in the middle of a movement collaboration project looking at how to increase the quantity and quality of collaboration between grassroots groups and the professional new economy sector.

We're particularly keen on working with organisations that work with people and communities whose voices are often ignored in discussions about the economy.

No prior experience around economics is required, and we're particularly keen on reaching grassroots changemakers and people interested in connecting their work to the economy, or looking at how a better understanding of the economy could improve their social change work.

How our workshops work

We run one-off workshops, or longer courses, and they can be run on or offline. Sessions are usually around two to three hours long, and are a mix of individual and group activities, discussions and visual materials. Sessions can be run for a minimum of ten people, and adapted to suit larger groups.

With a minimum of maths and graphs, through stories and reflection we make economics relevant to normal lives, and participants are encouraged to think about how their own life experiences relate to the wider economy. Our sessions aim to make participants aware of pressing economic problems and practical solutions, in a way that is fun, relevant, clear, and jargon-free.

What participants get from our workshops

Knowledge	
1	Build a deeper understanding of the root causes of the problems that impact you and your community, from housing, to climate change to food poverty.
2	Understand jargon used by decision makers, the media and others around the economy.
3	Discover ways to change our economic system so that it better meets your community's needs, including through a) building alternatives, b) challenging decision makers and those with power, and c) empowering communities.
Skills and networks	
4	Get inspired and empowered by other passionate individuals facing similar challenges in their communities, and bringing different experiences, identities and solutions.
5	Develop confidence and gain the language you'll need to articulate your ideas about what kind of economy you and your community wants and how it can be achieved.
6	Know how and where to find useful data about what's not working and what would work better to help communities thrive.
7	Discuss and assess the validity and reliability of evidence across a wide range of issues, and understand the problems and challenges of collecting good quality data.
8	Learn how to produce and publish content for various channels including local media
9	Identify who holds power to make change on various issues, and feel confident to challenge them.

> **"Being around other passionate individuals making a difference in their community made me feel empowered and inspired to do the same."**

> **People don't believe me when I say that this course on economics is accessible. I'm just open to learning- that's all you need to be.**

> **I look behind the story lines now - and question a lot more, and feel more confident about this.**

List of current economics workshops for social change for beginners

The list of workshops that we are currently able to offer can be found below. Details of these workshops can be found on the following pages.

If you're interested in a workshop on a different topic, let us know and we might be able to design and run that.

List of workshops:

1. **Understanding the economy**: what is it and how does it work?
2. **Changing the economy**: understanding different ways of organising for change in our economic system
3. **Government spending**: ensuring government - from national to local - funds what our communities need
4. **The UK's housing crisis:** understanding root causes and solutions
5. **Work and pay:** Building an economy which provides good work for all
6. **The climate crisis and a just transition:** understanding connections between climate justice and economic justice

Workshop 1: Understanding the economy: what is it and how does it work?
Aims:

- To introduce the economy as a system which organises resources and power
- To explore how different aspects of our work and our lives are connected to this system

Workshop 2: Exploring ways to change the economy
Aims:

- To understand what is meant by 'economic systems change'
- To become more aware of the work people are doing in our communities and across the UK to change the wider system

Workshop 3: Government spending: ensuring government - from national to local - funds what our communities need
Aims:

- To learn more about how local and national governments raise and spend money
- To be able to demonstrate that governments could choose to spend more
- To explore how we can resist spending cuts and campaign for wealth taxes

Workshop 4: The UK's housing crisis: understanding root causes and solutions
Aims:

- To understand the root causes and history of the housing crisis
- To understand how land and housing is a major driver of structural inequality in the UK
- To begin to analyse the challenges of tackling the root causes of the housing crisis
- To identify a range of possible actions we can take to build a better housing system
- To feel more confident challenging the dominant narrative about the causes of the housing crisis

Workshop 5: Work and pay: Building an economy which provides good work for all
Aims:

- To explore the state of work in the UK and what makes work good
- To explore the deeper economic root causes of low pay & low-quality work
- To explore how we can transition to economies built on good work for all

Workshop 6: The climate crisis and a just transition: understanding connections between climate justice and economic justice
Aims:

- To explore the current and future impacts of the climate and nature crisis on our communities
- To understand how and why the economic system is a root cause of the climate crisis
- To identify how the climate crisis deepens inequality and injustice
- To explore what kind of transitions we need in our communities and across the UK and how these transitions could be 'just'

Our workshops and courses are data backed

How participants rated our latest course ‘Shift Birmingham’



Who we’ve worked with

About People's Economy

We work with communities in the UK experiencing economic injustice to reimagine, rebalance, and transform the economy. We do this through direct support for changemakers, community education, and shaping the wider movement conditions for this work to be effective.

Read more about what we do and how we do it at www.peopleseconomyuk.org

Enquire or book

Whether you're interested in a one-off workshop for us, want to know more about our multi-session courses, or would like to discuss putting together a bespoke offer for your group or organisation, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact our Head of Training, Marion Sharples, at marion.sharples@peopleseconomyuk.org to start the conversation.