

PEOPLE'S ECONOMY

Join People's Economy's Changemaker Advisory Group 2023

About *People's Economy*

People's Economy works with communities in the UK facing 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.

The issues facing our communities, from the escalating climate crisis to housing insecurity, are rooted in and shaped by our current economic systems. Through community education on the economy we want to build confidence and capacity for those working towards positive change to understand the causes of injustice and shape a fairer, more sustainable alternative together.

We do this through:

- building shared understanding that enables people to connect their experiences and fights for justice to the economy;
- creating opportunities for people to to imagine, understand and plan the economic change they want to see;
- connecting communities who can support and reinforce each other's work;
- challenging barriers and creating routes into economic change work.

We work specifically with 'changemakers' who we define within our work as people who are from a community experiencing economic injustice or who work in such communities in a deeply embedded way. They will already be working to achieve social, environmental or political change but might not yet be connecting their work to the economy or feel able to work on economic change.

About the opportunity

At the start of 2023 we [launched](#) our new five-year strategy '[Communities Leading Change](#)'. In the first phase of implementing it we are reviewing and consolidating our approach to community education on the economy.

We are setting up a Changemaker Advisory Group of between 5-8 people, for an initial six-month period, to contribute to the development of People's Economy's community education on the economy and how to change it. This is to ensure that this development process and our community education is accountable, effective and relevant to the needs of the communities and grassroots changemakers we intend to support. You don't need to have done anything similar to this before or have a background in economics to join the group.

The group will run initially from October 2023 to March 2024. In total, you will need to spend 5 hours each month on group and individual activities. The group will meet once a month, for a 1-2 hour online meeting or workshop. Group members will also be asked to do other tasks before or after each meeting. This could include reading short project planning documents; watching online workshops to give feedback; reviewing educational resource content; and sharing your perspectives on community education and economic injustice through written notes or conversations with members of the People's Economy staff team.

We are looking for people to take up a paid opportunity to join the group who are changemakers part of communities experiencing economic injustice, and who can understand, represent and be accountable to their community. This could be a community in a specific place, or a community of people that comes together because of a shared identity. We believe economic injustice looks like many things but includes:

- Struggling to meet basic needs and access resources to live a secure and decent life. This includes but isn't limited to food, work, housing, utilities, and healthcare.
- Feeling disempowered and disconnected from networks, resources, and decision making. This means not having agency or control over important aspects of one's life.
- Experiencing oppression as a result of your identity. This could be due to historically embedded and structural inequalities between groups.

People's Economy will pay a fee of £100 per month to each group member to compensate for your time (if preferred this can be provided in the form of gift vouchers).

We are strongly committed to diversity, inclusion and anti-oppression. We are setting up the Changemaker Advisory Group to make sure we include the perspectives of people under-represented in People's Economy, economics and the charity sector in our decision-making. The group intends to include people across a diverse range of identities and backgrounds, including across gender, ethnicity / race, age, disability, class background and UK geography, including intersectional identities e.g. women of global south heritage and working class women. If you would like to find out more about People's Economy's commitment to Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression, please see [here](#).

Who we are looking for to join the group

We are looking for people who:

1. Are part of a community experiencing economic injustice.
2. Can represent and understand the experiences of their community. This means you will be able to consider the experiences of a range of people, not just your own personal experiences.
3. Already be working to achieve social, environmental and political change based on the issues you see in your community. You may or may not yet be connecting their work to the economy or feel able to work on economic change.
4. Are doing changemaking work at the grassroots level. This means that you do not have to be working in a paid capacity in a registered organisation. You might be working in your community in a voluntary capacity as part of a community group, organisation or network.
5. Have the skills to work well with other people in online meetings and workshops. This means you will be up for sharing your own ideas and challenging the group and People's Economy team, as well as being open to listen, learn from and respond to other people's

ideas. (We will support people to challenge the group and People's Economy team if this isn't something that comes easily).

6. Have time to spend five hours each month during the six-month period to attend meetings and do short tasks before and after meetings (the tasks before and after the meetings can be done at times that suit you).
7. Are able to read short written documents in English.
8. Would be interested in benefiting from People's Economy's community education on the economy and how we change it and is interested in what People's Economy wants to achieve.
9. Are 18 or older and based in the UK.

What to do if you might be interested in joining the group

If you think you might be interested in joining the group but aren't sure whether it is right for you, reach out to us via email. If you have accessibility needs or other reasons why you need adjustments to complete the expression of interest form, you can contact us via email to discuss how we can accommodate this. Send an email to Tanita at tanita.lewis@peopleseconomyuk.org.

Once you decide you'd like to join, please fill in an expression of interest form available [here](#) and a diversity monitoring form available [here](#) by 11.59pm Monday 28th August 2023.

We will get back to you by the 8th of September and may ask for a short follow up call before we make the final decision. We will ask those we invite to join the group to a first meeting in October. Meetings will take place monthly on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, either in the day or evening depending on group availability.

This first meeting will be an opportunity for everyone involved to try out working together as a group. After the meeting we will ask you if you are willing to commit to being part of the group for the remainder of the six months. We think it is unlikely, but People's Economy might at this stage ask some people not to take part in the group, if we believe that they do not meet points 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the 'what we are looking for' list above.

If we need to choose between candidates for the group who are of equal merit (i.e. we think that have equally valuable skills and experience for the group), we will prioritise people with identities and backgrounds that are currently under-represented in People's Economy, economics and the charity sector.

Accessibility and extra support

You might have accessibility needs or other reasons why you need additional support to attend group meetings. We will aim to provide any additional support and/or make reasonable adjustments to the process. We have included a question on the expression of interest form where you can let us know if you need any additional support.