

# People & Place 2023

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Extra Information



Armley Action Team | People & Place 2022 Cohort

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## About Footwork

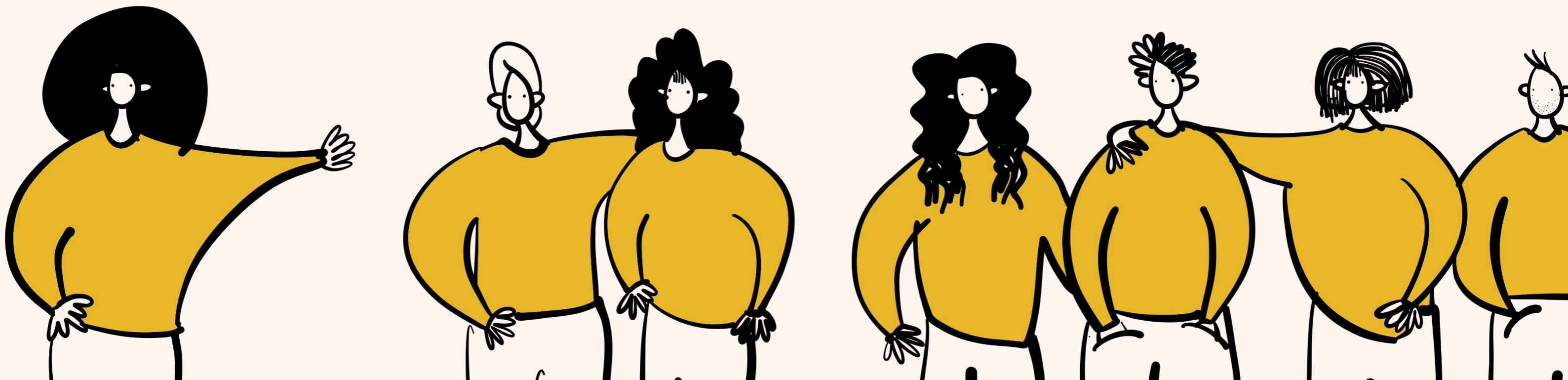
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# What is People & Place?

**People and Place is Footwork's name for the programme of funding and support we give local social innovators like you to turn your bold ideas into lasting, positive change in your communities.**

Our grants give you the time and the headspace to step back from the day to day delivery of your work, while our programme of support connects you with other innovators and a range of experts.

It helps you to discover how to tell your story, to demonstrate your project's impact, to identify and overcome challenges, to find useful collaborators and, crucially, to know your own worth.



# What's on offer?

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**Footwork's aim is for People & Place to create a network of strong locally-led projects that will have a long lasting impact on communities up and down the country.**

We do this by supporting you in two ways:

## **People and Place Grant (£5,000)**

This grant is unrestricted but its main purpose is to give you the time to think and the freedom to take part in the People and Place programme.

## **People and Place Programme (to the value of £5,000)**

It helps you to discover how to tell your story, to demonstrate your project's impact, to identify and overcome challenges, to find useful collaborators and, crucially, to know your own worth.

# What's the programme all about?

## **Receive one-to-one support**

We will work with you to identify a mentor who can provide the help you need to refine how you describe your work, tell your story, and develop your pitch for different audiences.

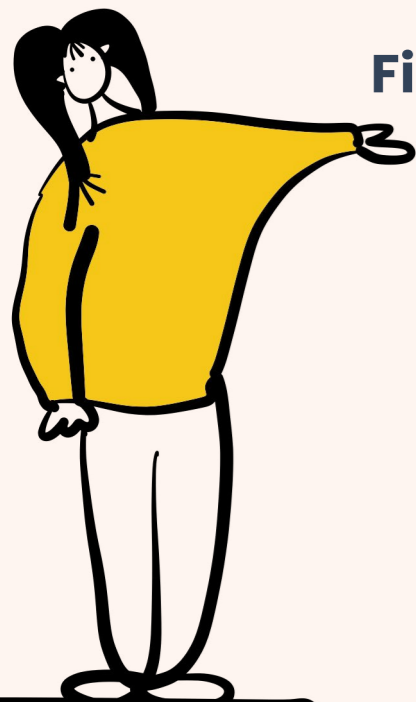
Mentors could assist in developing your overall strategy, explore methods you could use to gather evidence of the project's impact and find ways for you to most effectively communicate the difference you're making.

## **Learn from others**

This part of the programme lets you swap experiences with our network of (other) People and Place innovators and learn about their models of community placemaking. In this supportive and collaborative environment you can identify and share common challenges and help each other to tackle them.

## **Find collaborators**

We at Footwork will help you to understand the wider system in which you are operating. This is about collaborating and building partnerships with people who can help you overcome barriers and achieve your goals.



# Hear what others have to say ...

“When you’re moving at a hundred miles an hour you sometimes forget about strategic thinking and just fire-fight the ‘doing’ - and this programme really gave me the chance to stop and really think.”

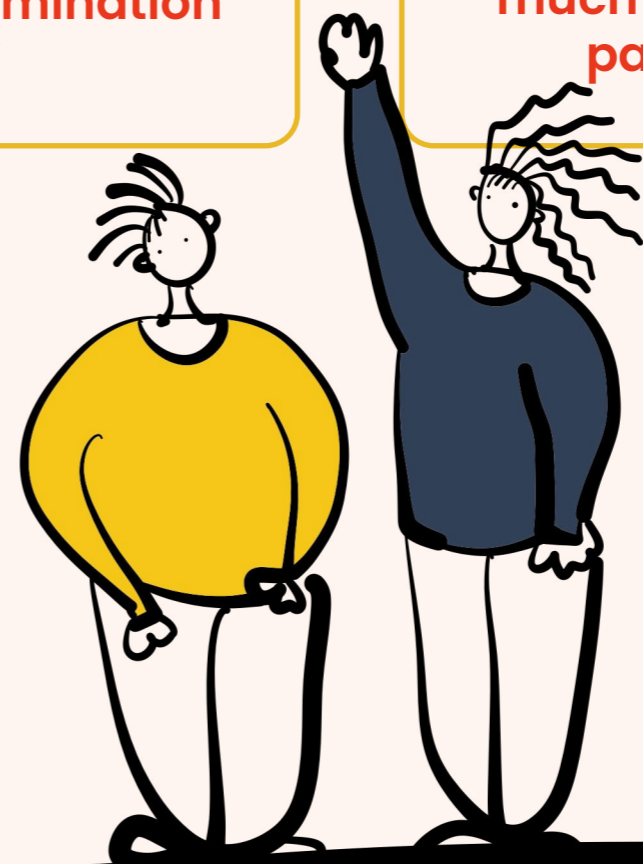
[Read Sophie & Marianna’s story](#)

“This whole programme has been so enjoyable and informative. We are extremely grateful for the time and effort both from Footwork and our mentors in providing the support. We were always determined to achieve certain things but the programme has helped focus and energise that determination so thank you!”

[Read Danie & Tom’s story](#)

“The programme has given us the confidence to put things in place which are already really benefiting the project. We feel 100 times better about going forward into the next stage of the project thanks to Mark. Thank you so much for the opportunity to be part of People & Place.”

[Read Hannah & Mark’s story](#)



# Is People & Place right for me?

## We are looking for **people** who ...

- ... have lived experience of the problem they are tackling, or work closely with those who do
- ... and who will benefit most from the opportunity to engage with the programme.

## We are looking for **bold ideas** that ...

- ... create a sense of community and belonging. We are looking for ideas that improve how places support social connections and give local people more of a say in improving where they live.

For example:

I'm making new use of a local open space or building, or seeking to do so

I'm rethinking how local facilities (my local library, high street or others) can better serve our community

I'm challenging the planning system to do a better job for communities

I'm helping people have a say in local decision making

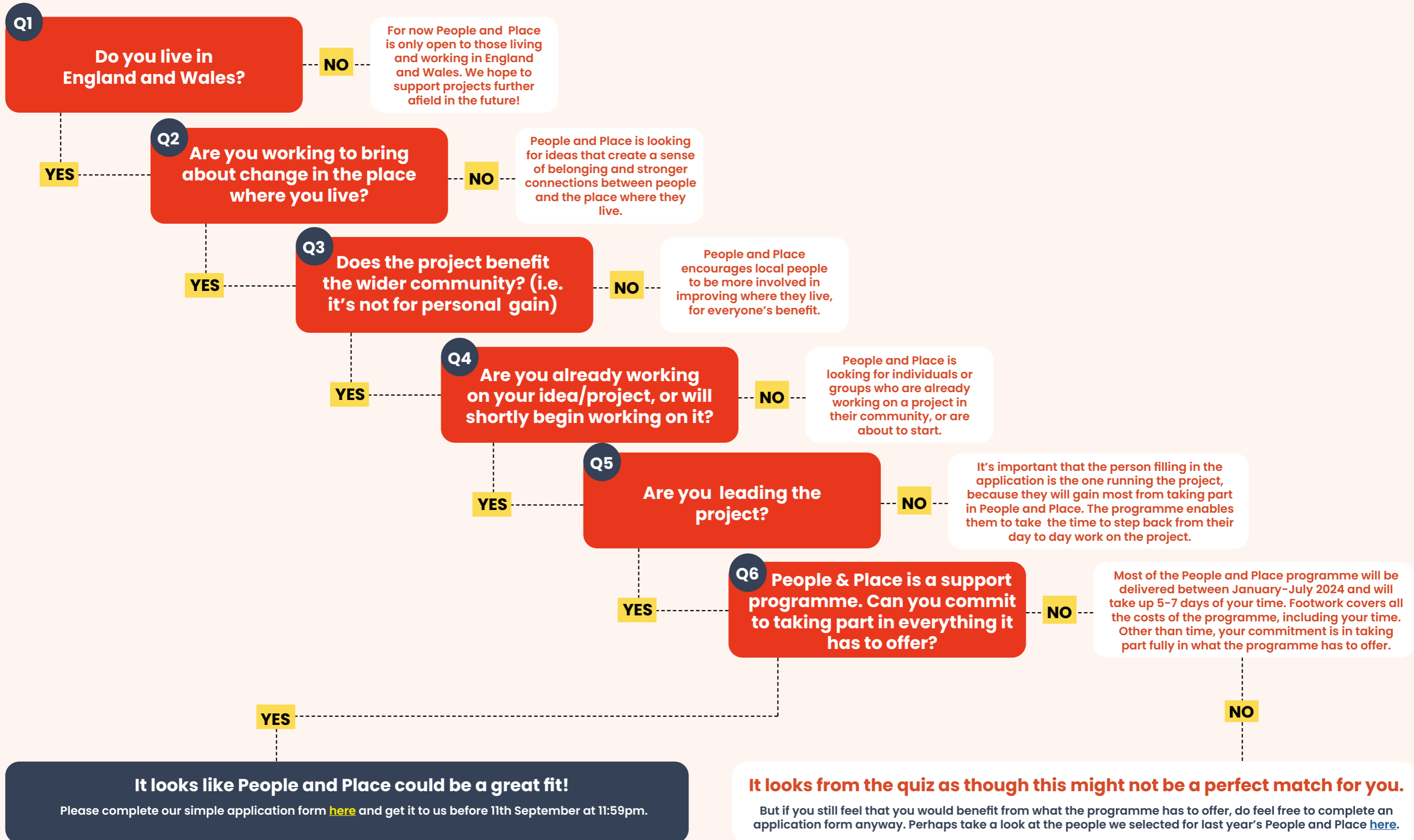
I'm trying to create a stronger sense of place

I'm helping to strengthen the connection between local people and the neighbourhood

I'm protecting our local social and built heritage



# Is People and Place right for me? Take our Quick Quiz



# Is People and Place for you? How do we choose? Have a look at our criteria:

Footwork asks those applying to People and Place to answer questions about **the problem** they have identified, **the idea** they have had to address that problem and **the person and/or people** leading the project.

\* A local social innovator is someone with direct or lived experience of the problem that they have identified and can make strong local connections; they have the vision, determination and motivation to turn their idea into action. They are actively looking for the support of others to help them take the next step with their project and so would benefit from the programme. Does this describe you?

**In the application these are the things we check against:**

**What kinds of **problems** does People & Place care about?**

People and Place really cares about problems that affect people’s sense of belonging in their community and the place they call home.

We focus on issues that prevent people from having a say, or from having some control over what happens around them; and that limit their ability to connect with others to change things for the better.

**Description of the problem:**

- Clearly explains the problem they have identified in their area and why it needs tackling

**Impact of the problem:**

- Describes how the problem directly affects their local community in particular

**Experience and evidence of the problem:**

- Provides proper evidence of the problem – from their direct experience, examples, or data – to show the significance of the problem and the need to address it

**What kinds of **ideas** does People & Place get excited about?**

People & Place supports bold ideas that tackle local problems and which increase a sense of community and belonging.

We are looking for ideas that help build strong social connections, give local people more of a say in improving where they live and which have the potential to bring about lasting positive change. Ideas may be at a very early stage or already up and running.

**Description of the idea:**

- Clearly explains the idea, its aims and how it addresses the problem they have identified

**Experience and evidence to back their idea:**

- Provides an example of how the idea could make a positive difference, or is already making a difference

**Lasting impact:**

- Explains why their idea has long-term potential and why they believe it will bring about change for the better in the community

**What kinds of **people** does People & Place look to support?**

People and Place supports people who; have direct or lived experience of the problem that they have identified and can make strong local connections; they have the vision, determination and motivation to turn their idea into action.

They are actively looking for the support of others to help them take the next step with their project and so would benefit from the People and Place programme.

**Direct experience**

- Makes it clear that they have a deep understanding of the community and of the challenges it faces,
- Explains how they are using this experience to develop their idea

**Qualities to succeed**

- Demonstrates an ability to collaborate and communicate with others
- Has the vision, motivation and tenacity to make a success of their idea

**Will benefit from People and Place:**

- Recognises the challenges they face and how additional support will help overcome them
- Demonstrates how the People and Place Programme will be of particular benefit to them and their project

# The application

**The application form is a downloadable Word Doc on our website.**

Please take the time to answer the questions and then save the form in whichever of these formats works best for you: a Word document / a PDF / a Google doc / as Google slides / an audio file / or face to camera as a video MP4

Please write the title like this in the subject line:  
People & Place 2023\_[Your Name]

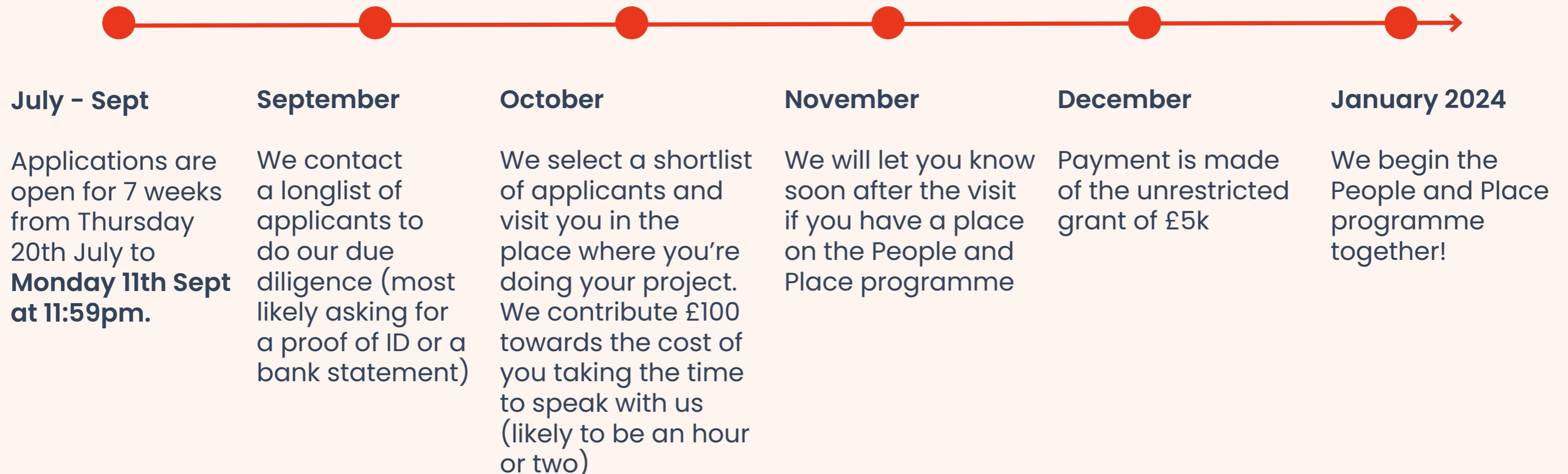
Then send to us at: **applications@footwork.org.uk**



# Timings, costs & commitment

**Most of the People and Place programme will happen between January–July 2024 and will take up 5 –7 days of your time.**

Footwork will cover the costs of the programme and any additional expenses (e.g. such as fieldtrips) related to it. Your commitment, besides your time, is in taking part fully in all that the programme has to offer.



# Exclusions

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**People and Place is open to applications from individuals, groups or organisations (i.e. you do not have to be a constituted organisation to apply).**

**People and Place 2023 does not support:**

- Any group or organisation with an annual turnover of more than £100,000
- Individuals / groups / organisations whose work does not have a direct or long-term benefit in a community / communities in England and Wales
- Previous fundees of People & Place 2022
- The promotion of religion or political campaigning



Railway Gardens | People & Place 2022 Cohort

# Footwork in a nutshell

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Our role as a charity is to provide support to people who have the ideas and the drive to help their local communities thrive. Along with funding, we give them practical help to overcome the barriers that stand in their way and to make useful connections in their community and with decision makers.

We learn a great deal from the valuable local knowledge and experience of the people we work alongside and support. Individually their bold ideas demonstrate how resilient places are best created, while together they provide powerful evidence that – when properly supported – local innovation is very effective in changing places for the better.

Armed with this strong evidence of community-led placemaking, we at Footwork then share it with local and national partners, so that together we can create fairer, more collaborative ways of working.

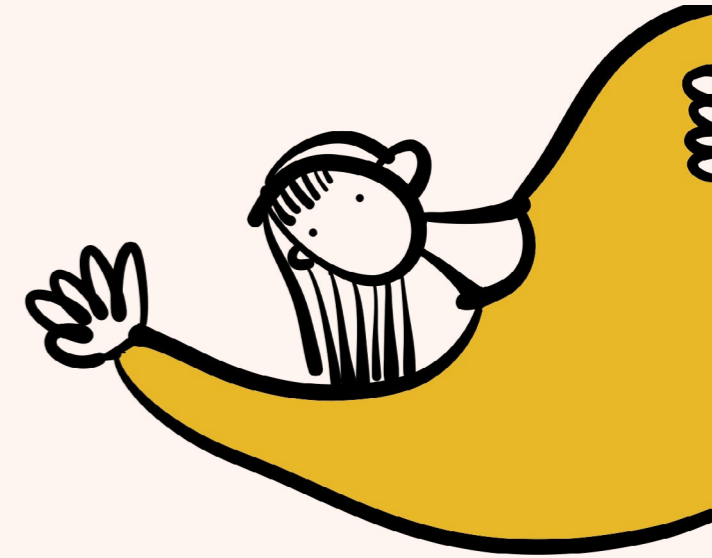


# What are our goals?

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- To work with and support a network of local social innovators; and to grow their skills and confidence so they can do their very best and make a greater social impact
- To learn about how their work gives local people a voice and a role in what's going on around them, therefore strengthening their sense of belonging and the connection with others necessary for places to thrive
- To grow a bank of knowledge to demonstrate the valuable expertise and motivation that local people can bring in transforming places for the better
- To share this knowledge as widely as possible and to influence those involved in placemaking, in order to create fairer, more collaborative ways of working

# A glossary of words we use



## **Local social innovators**

People with direct experience of local problems, who have bold ideas for home-grown solutions and the tenacity and urgency to turn them into action.

## **Place**

The local environment in which people live and feel a sense of belonging.

## **Freedom to act**

The ability and confidence to shape and contribute to the place you live in and call home.

## **Connection with others**

The determination to amplify the voices of those in your community and drive collective action to bring about change.

## **Resilient communities**

Places where people have the freedom to act, to be heard and to connect with others, so that together they can help communities to thrive. This is most powerful when fuelled by people from the inside and built - over time - from a strong social base.

## **Lasting positive change**

The enduring benefits that can result from a process of change for the better that is led from the inside.that can result from a process of change for the better that is led from the inside.

# The Insights Group

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Finding the best solutions to tough social and environmental problems cannot be achieved alone and in order to do this well we need to learn from those who already have experience of doing it.

This is why Footwork brought together a group of people with first-hand experience of local innovation, community funding and placemaking to help plan our new programme of support for local social innovators in 2023.

We called this an Insights Group because we know this deep local knowledge and experience is so important in identifying and supporting people who do the difficult job of bringing about change in their communities.

Over the course of 6 months we have listened closely and explored together what it means to be a social innovator. The group has helped us decide just what support People & Place 2023 needs to offer local social innovators so they can turn their bold ideas into action and create lasting positive change for people and places.



**Danie Gilbert**

People & Place local social innovator, musician, lawyer, co-founder of Good Shepherd Studios Ltd & We Flock CIC



**Dan Wainwright**

Researcher in policy at UCL Institute of Innovation & Public Purpose, designer at Dark Matter Labs



**Suraya Miah**

Social worker, citizen scientist, community grant-maker at Camden Giving



**Susie Finlayson**

Funder, enabler of community innovation, head of design and delivery at Power to Change



**Juliet Can**

Local social innovator, equality and justice campaigner, founder of social enterprise Stour Trust



**Hani Salih**

Designer, community wellbeing researcher, associate at the Quality of Life Foundation



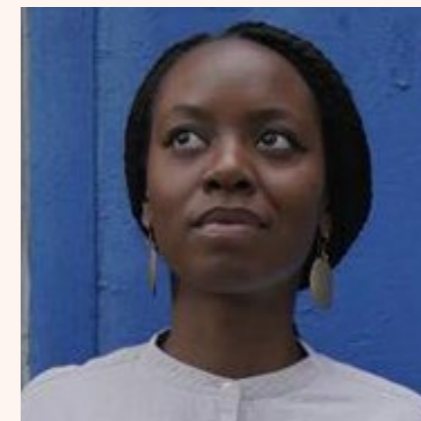
**Raja Moussaoui**

Architect, journalist, policy, programme manager of Culture and Community Spaces at Risk at the GLA



**Stephen Miller**

Funder, supporter of community business, director of delivery and impact at Power to Change



**Stephanie Edwards**

Architect, urbanist, community innovator, co-founder of architectural practice Urban Symbiotics

# Our learnings

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Over the years Footwork has found that when ideas for change are locally-driven and informed by local knowledge and experience, they are much more successful. This is why we continue to support local social innovators. But at the moment the actions they take to help their communities to thrive, isn't really known about or valued.

So the challenge is for Footwork to make sure that their work is sufficiently recognised for the important part it plays in bringing about lasting positive change.

With the support of our Insights Group we've learnt that local social innovators:

- can rarely afford to stop, take a breathe and think strategically about their work
- find it hard to describe their unique offer and the impact of their work
- face all sorts of barriers that prevent them making progress with their initiatives

The purpose of People and Place 2023 is a direct response, to help to plug this gap.



**“Those within the institutions and those who are active within communities have capabilities but they don’t understand each other. Both sides need to understand their power.”**

Insights Group Member



## **People & Place 2023**

Extra Information