



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

# PRIDE IN PLACE

LED BY YOU – BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

## Workshops

### Investing in community buildings

10:30 – 11:30, Cockerell Room



This workshop explores how Pride in Place areas can approach investment in community buildings and physical assets; both improving existing spaces or developing new ones. Drawing on examples, we will look at how to assess community needs, plan for viable business models, navigate ownership and governance options, and ensure that buildings serve diverse residents. The session will highlight how community buildings can act as catalysts for wider social and economic activity, while also addressing common challenges such as long-term maintenance, multi-use design, and ensuring access for all.

- Understand the role community buildings can play as social, economic, and cultural anchors.
- Learn how to assess local needs, opportunities, and gaps to inform investment decisions.
- Recognise different ownership, governance, and management models including community-led options.
- Gain insight into developing sustainable business plans that balance community benefit with financial viability.

Delivered by Locality



### Meaningful resident leadership in decision making about resources

10:30 – 11:30, Elmes Room

This workshop focuses on how to create the conditions for authentic resident leadership, where people living in the area shape priorities, decisions, and activities. Drawing on experience from past and current programmes, we will explore models for sharing power, supporting residents to grow in confidence and skill, and ensuring leadership structures remain inclusive, representative, and sustainable over time.

- Understand what meaningful resident leadership entails.
- Explore ways to support residents to grow confidence, skills, and clarity of role.
- Learn how to design leadership structures that are inclusive and representative.
- Gain strategies for sharing power and decision-making with local people.

Delivered by Local Trust





## Supporting wider community involvement in plans and decisions

10:30 – 11:30, Mandela Room



Going beyond the core group is essential for legitimacy and impact. This session will look at methods for engaging a wide and diverse cross-section of the community. Participants will discuss creative outreach, relationship-building, and how to make involvement welcoming, flexible, and meaningful.

- Recognise the importance of reaching beyond a core group to involve the wider community.
- Learn practical and creative methods for engaging diverse and less-heard voices.
- Understand how to design participation opportunities that are welcoming and accessible.
- Learn how to map community networks and identify opportunities for deeper engagement.

Delivered by The Centre for Participation and Action

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## Building strong partnerships (community and third sector perspective)

12:00 – 13:00, Cockerell Room



Backing  
community  
business

Effective partnerships are at the heart of successful place-based work. This session will examine what strong cross-sector collaboration looks like in practice, including how to draw on the strengths of residents, local authorities and other statutory partners, voluntary and community groups, businesses, and other anchor institutions. Speakers will share lessons on trust-building, navigating tensions, and establishing ways of working that support collective action.

- Recognise what effective cross-sector partnerships look like in place-based programmes.
- Understand how to build and maintain trust across different roles, organisations, and communities.
- Develop strategies for navigating challenges and differing expectations.
- Identify practical mechanisms for sustaining collaboration over time.

Delivered by Power to Change

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## Practical approaches to measuring success

12:00 – 13:00, Elmes Room



This session covers practical, flexible approaches to capturing progress in place-based, resident-led programmes. Participants will explore participatory evaluation methods, ways to track both tangible and less tangible change, and how to develop success measures that reflect local aspirations rather than a one-size-fits-all model.

- Understand flexible, practical approaches to learning and evaluation in place-based programmes.
- Learn how to develop success measures rooted in local aspirations.
- Gain confidence using participatory methods to capture change and community experience.
- Know how to use insight and data to adapt plans and demonstrate progress.

Delivered by Local Trust

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## Providing the support infrastructure

12:00 – 13:00, Mandela Room

This session looks at the practical support systems that enable resident-led funding programmes to function well. From administrative support to training, facilitation, and governance arrangements. Speakers will share insights into what has worked in past programmes, including and how to identify local areas for support, and tailor offers to the needs and capacity of each area.

- Understand the essential elements of effective support infrastructure.
- Learn how roles such as locally accountable organisations, and facilitators contribute to success.
- Recognise how to tailor support to local capacity and context.
- Be able to identify gaps in current support arrangements and plan for strengthening them.

Delivered by NAVCA

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## Setting up and making plans

14:15 – 15:15, Great Hall

This workshop introduces practical steps for getting Pride in Place areas off to a strong start. Participants will explore how to build a shared understanding of local priorities, develop early vision statements, and create flexible plans that can evolve as relationships and knowledge deepen. Through examples from previous resident-led programmes, we will highlight approaches that balance early momentum with long-term thinking.

- Understand the core components of early-stage planning in a context of resident-led decision making and cross-sector involvement.
- Gain confidence in creating flexible, evolving plans that reflect local priorities.
- Learn how to balance quick wins with long-term vision-setting.
- Be able to identify the information, relationships, and conversations needed to start well.

Delivered by Rachel Vernelle, Big Local area advisor

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## Building strong partnerships (local authority perspective)

14:15 – 15:15, Elmes Room

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- Recognise what effective cross-sector partnerships look like in place-based programmes.
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Delivered by 3ni

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## Looking ahead: legacy in 2036 and beyond

Local Trust

14:15 – 15:15, Mandela Room

This session will give attendees the chance to look to the future and explore what success for Pride in Place might look like in 2036 and beyond. Join for a fireside chat with those involved with the Big Local programme over the past fifteen years to hear how partnerships have created – and delivered – ambitious plans for their areas and generated positive lasting change.

- Learn more about the building blocks that support lasting connections within communities and help sustain local activities.
- Understand how resident-led action can affect positive change in the longer term.
- Gain practical insights for turning visions for an area into reality, developing confidence to navigate and overcome challenges along the way.

Delivered by Local Trust

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## Inclusive partnerships and decision making

involve

14:15 – 15:15, Cockerell Room

This workshop explores practical models for how partnerships can actively promote inclusion and diversity. We will examine how to balance formal democratic responsibilities with participatory approaches that centre local voices—particularly those who are less often heard.

We will explore how to create decision-making processes that are open, fair, and accessible, ensuring all involved understand their roles and feel able to contribute. The session will highlight techniques for reducing barriers to participation, supporting a wider range of people to take part in discussions, and preventing dominant voices from shaping outcomes.

- Understand inclusive and transparent models for partnership decision-making.
- Recognise how to balance democratic, statutory and participatory responsibilities.
- Learn techniques to ensure diverse voices are heard and barriers to participation are reduced.
- Gain practical tools for achieving consensus and managing disagreement constructively.

Delivered by Involve

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