

Programme Reference Group – Frequently Asked Questions

What is The Leap?

The Leap is a Creative People and Places programme of arts and cultural activities in Bradford and Keighley. We aim to get more local people shaping and leading on a new cultural programme for the district. This is a ten-year project and will create experiences for, by and with local communities.

Who are The Leap?

The Leap is led by a consortium of partners: Bradford Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Mind The Gap, Bradford Eid Festival and Keighley Women and Children Centre. Our team consists of a Director, a Creative Producer, three Community Development Managers and an Administration Manager.

Where do you get the funds from?

We are currently funded by Arts Council England, Bradford District Council and Bradford for Everyone.

What are the six areas in Bradford and Keighley

Manningham, Bradford Moor, Tong, City, Keighley West and Keighley Central wards currently.

Why those wards?

These six wards have been identified as engaging less with arts and culture than other wards within Bradford and Keighley.

How old do you have to be to apply?

We are recruiting people who are over 11 years old and will ensure the group reflects a range of ages. Those applying who are under the age of 16 will need consent from a guardian to participate in the programme. Communication between the participant, their guardian and The Leap will be facilitated at all times.

How will the meetings work in the current climate?

All our meetings will be held in safe and accessible ways, ensuring we comply with any Government guidelines around COVID-19. In the immediate future all meetings will be held online until restrictions are lifted for in person gatherings. The Leap will provide support (where possible and appropriate) to any member of the group in accessing online meetings and information.

What access support is available?

The Leap will be developing the Programme Reference Group so that it is reflective of contemporary Bradford. We are offering application access support and, if you are

successful, we will hold a private meeting with each individual member to ensure we provide a safe working space that is accessible for all participants.

What do you mean when you talk about “using arts and culture for social and radical change”?

We want to make a significant change in the ownership of arts and culture across the Bradford district. We want to give communities and people of the district the power to shape what the culture looks like for them and their communities. We are looking for people who want to support that change and help us on our journey.

What if I don't connect with any of the characteristics?

The characteristics specified in the call out were provided as examples of words and phrases our communities have used to describe the change they want to see or the process by which the change might happen. Don't worry if you don't connect with all of the characteristics; we want to hear from people who reflect our communities.

I have never participated in Arts & Cultural experiences in the City. Does that matter?

Absolutely not. We want to connect with new people, from a range of lived experiences, so cultural experience is not necessary. Although we are looking for a range of people, and when considering final group members, we will be looking for a balance of experience, which will make the group exciting and varied.

What happens if my circumstances change during the programme?

We want to be as accommodating as possible with participants of the Programme Reference Group and appreciate that this is sizable commitment to make. We understand we are living in an ever-changing society and environment, so we will be as accommodating as possible when it comes down to the change in circumstances for members of the group. But this programme is a network, a peer support group, a space to learn, a space to experience new things and a space to be part of pioneering programme in Bradford, and your ability to commit the time and effort in helping The Leap, should be considered when applying to be part of the programme.

When will you notify applications if they are successful?

Shortlisted applications will be contacted during the week of 14th December, as will those who do not make the shortlist. Interviews (digital) will take place in January 2021. The group will be announced following the interviews, in January 2021.

Will you notify us to say you have received our application?

Once the call out has closed, all applicants will receive a confirmation email and we will provide further information on timelines and appropriate updates.

How do I engage with The Leap if I am unsuccessful?

The Leap has a number of fantastic opportunities and we are looking for a range of people to be part of our programmes. Do look out for other opportunities which we will make available via our website, social media channels and through our local connections and partners.

Other Leap opportunities – The Leap are also recruiting for people to join our Changemakers programme and to pitch radical ideas as part of the Radical Social initiative. Check out The Leap's website and socials for further information!

**If you'd like to have a chat, please contact Phil Hargreaves on
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For more information about The Leap visit: www.theleapbradford.co.uk