



Independent Chair – Consortium Steering Group Board

Things are speeding up here at the Super Slow Way with some exciting changes racing towards us during a period of great possibility and opportunity! To help us take our next steps, we are exploring options for a change in governance model and are looking for a dynamic and committed person to take on the role of Independent Chair for our Consortium Steering Group Board.

We are looking to recruit an exceptional individual who is passionate about using culture as a tool to drive transformation in our area, and who can bring new challenges and diplomacy during this time of great opportunity and significant change within our organisation. We need a person who can help us to open doors and create new partnerships, shape our future governance structures and build a resilient and dynamic new operational model.

This is a voluntary role which we hope will be appointed for an initial 3 year period with an option to review after the first 12 months. We expect the role will need about 1 day per month of your time, all expenses will be covered & we know you will gain a lot of professional satisfaction from playing such a key role in helping to deliver our ambitious programme here in East Lancashire.

The role will require:

- Chairing 4 quarterly consortium steering group meetings per year
- Working with the senior leadership team to plan and inform the consortium steering group agendas and reporting requirements
- Attending occasional additional meetings and activities on behalf of the organisation
- Advocating on behalf of our work – using your networks and connections to build and shape new relationships
- Supporting our senior staff team to think through the big challenges and make the changes needed to take the organisation forward to its full potential
- Supporting a review of the consortium's partnership agreements and terms of reference

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- Ensure the consortium membership is actively engaged & supporting the organisation to its fullest potential, and that community voice is present within consortium meetings.
- Act as a to the consortium and leadership team, providing impartial and independent judgment and decision making.
- Ensure that The Super Slow Way continues to adhere to the conditions and expectations of its funders

We are looking for someone with:

- Significant senior leadership experience within any sector connected to our work e.g. health, economic regeneration, housing, architecture / built environment, culture, politics, local government, environment, community development etc...
- Knowledge of and commitment to working in non-metropolitan geographies
- An interest in arts, culture and community development
- Experience in working with and empowering communities
- Excellent personal and professional networks
- Previous experience of chairing & sitting on boards
- A commitment to equality, diversity, representation and creating space for marginalised voices

The Super Slow Way Background:

<http://superslowway.org.uk/>

Founded in 2015 as part of Arts Council England's Creative People & Places programme the Super Slow Way is a geography and a process, as well as a programme.

Creative People & Places (CPP) is a National Lottery funded programme focusing on parts of the country where involvement in arts and culture is significantly below the national average. The programme supports more people and communities choosing and taking part in the creativity and culture available on their doorstep.

The Super Slow Way adopts an action research model, informing the national CPP programme and responding to the following CPP research questions:



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- Are more people from places of least engagement experiencing and inspired by the arts and culture?
- To what extent was the aspiration for excellence of art and culture and excellence of the process of engaging communities achieved?
- Which approaches were successful and what were the lessons learned?

We have worked with communities across the area and our consortium partners over the last 7 years to carve out a role in East Lancashire, the wider county of Lancashire as well as nationally and internationally, as a cultural development agency that was previously lacking.

We have increasingly developed our programming to address the needs of the communities with whom we work, to become a key strategic partner working with organisations, artists, residents and local authorities to spotlight and enhance the cultural reputation of East Lancashire.

We work with people who have little or no experience of the traditionally subsidised arts sector to weave the fabric of a future cultural landscape in Pennine Lancashire along the Leeds & Liverpool Canal Corridor using its rich assets of environment, heritage, and community

Our two key long-term projects – the Pennine Lancashire Linear Park and the British Textile Biennial – are two of only a small number of core projects detailed in Lancashire County Council’s recently published Cultural Investment Strategy. These two core programme platforms bring together and elevate our embedded, long-term projects across our communities, providing national visibility, informing cultural strategy, and demonstrating that cultural productivity and active citizenship is flourishing across East Lancashire.

We are part of Arts Council England’s [Creative People and Places programme](#) and hosted by [Canal & River Trust](#).

Our Consortium Steering Group is made up of:

- Canal & River Trust
- Blackburn with Darwen Council
- Hyndburn Council
- Burnley Council
- Pendle Council
- Lancashire County Council/Creative Lancashire
- University of Central Lancashire



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- Arts Partners Pennine Lancashire (APPL)
- Newground Together
- Lancashire BME Network
- Incredible Edible

To apply:

Please send us an email to jenny@superslowway.org.uk detailing your interest in the role and any experience you bring to it, please include links to any relevant bio's or an attached CV.

If you'd like an informal chat prior to applying please contact laurie@superslowway.org.uk

Deadline for applications is Monday 14th November at 5pm.

All applicants can expect to receive a response during the week of the 21st Nov. The consortium & team will invite shortlisted applicants for an informal interview conversation over the following few weeks with a view to making an appointment in early December 2022.

Super Slow Way is committed to reflecting and celebrating the diversity of our communities across East Lancashire in all aspects of our work and relationships including with artists, audiences, staff, board and partners. We especially welcome applications from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse individuals and people who identify as Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent. Please contact [us](#) to discuss any particular access requirements around your application.