



# Plunkett Community Business Membership Panel

## Recruitment Pack

We're taking applications for one additional member to join the Plunkett Foundation's Community Business Membership Panel. This document is your guide to the purpose of the panel, what the role involves, what we're looking for in a panel member and how to apply.

### What is the Community Business Membership Panel?

We depend on our members to help shape the work we do to support and advocate for the community business sector. The Community Business Membership Panel is a group of 12 individuals involved in current Community Business member organisations, including one nominated Plunkett Foundation Trustee, that helps to inform our work and improve our services, develop relevant content, training and products, as well as strengthen our voice in the community business sector. The purpose of the panel is to:

- Ensure we are tapping into the ideas and priorities of community businesses across the UK
- Act as a 'sounding board' and providing feedback to Plunkett on suggested membership benefits, projects and campaigns
- Respond to surveys to inform our policy and campaign work – including informing our responses to Government consultations
- Champion the work of Plunkett locally and nationally
- Support Plunkett to achieve its Rural Vision and its ambitions to grow membership, particularly in areas that are underrepresented

### What does the role involve?

The Community Business Membership Panel does not have a formal governance role or oversee the activity of the Plunkett Foundation; it is an ideas machine, enabling us to take a consultative approach to our work.

- Any individual involved with an existing community business member can apply to join the Panel
- It is a voluntary position, although reasonable expenses will be met should travel be required
- The panel will meet virtually four times a year; meetings will be chaired by Plunkett's Membership Manager, Claire Spendley
- Meetings will be supplemented by ad-hoc email requests, opportunities to respond to short surveys to inform our policy work and consultation responses, or contribute feedback on ideas and suggestions to develop our membership package
- A time commitment of no more than 1 day per month is expected
- Members will initially be appointed to the panel for a 2 year term. As participation in the panel is voluntary, this term will be non-binding – if circumstances change, panel members are able to step down and following this term, a member can opt to reapply to the panel as part of the open recruitment process

### What's in it for me?



Being part of the Community Business Membership Panel can create opportunities to raise your profile in the community business sector. Participation in the panel can help you to develop your knowledge and skills, build your network, and will provide a supportive environment for you to get more involved in the sector you're passionate about. Individuals who volunteer for the Community Business Membership Panel could also be considered for future vacancies on the Plunkett Foundation Board of Trustees.

### **Skills and attributes**

The Community Business Membership Panel has been recruited to ensure it represents the diversity of our membership, with representatives from across the UK and from a variety of community enterprise types. We are looking for people to join the panel who:

- Are actively involved in a community business
- Are excellent communicators
- Have experience, or a keen interest in any of the following areas: local food supply; employment, training and apprenticeships; digital technologies; volunteer recruitment and management; environmental issues; community engagement; raising finance
- You, or the community business you're part of, must be a Plunkett member

### **How to apply**

If you're interested in joining the Community Business Membership Panel, please complete this [application form](#). The closing date for applications is Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Your application will be assessed by the Plunkett team and you will be contacted by Claire Spendley, Head of Community Business, to let you know whether your application has been successful by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022.