

PRIDE IN PLACE

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Pride in Place Chair Recruitment FAQ

What is the Pride in Place Programme?

The Pride in Place Programme is a long-term national investment initiative funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). It focuses on supporting neighbourhoods across Great Britain that are identified as being most in need. The programme aims to empower local residents to shape the future of their communities through community-led regeneration, improvement projects, and long-term planning.

Enfield Wash and Edmonton have been selected as two of the neighbourhoods to benefit from this national programme. Each area could receive up to £20 million over the next decade. The programme specifically targets places of around 10,000 residents that are considered “doubly disadvantaged” because they experience both high levels of deprivation and weaker social infrastructure.

Delivery of the programme will be led locally through a Neighbourhood Board, chaired by an independent community leader. The Board will work in partnership with the local authority, the local MP, and the wider community to co-produce a long-term plan for the area. This structure ensures that decision-making is community-led, with residents playing a central role in shaping priorities, projects, and investment over the lifetime of the programme.

What is the role of the Independent Chair?

The Independent Chair plays a central role in leading the local Neighbourhood Board and championing the Pride in Place Programme. Working in partnership with residents, organisations, businesses and the local MP and authority, the Chair will guide the Board to ensure the programme remains community-led, transparent and focused on local priorities.

They will lead the recruitment and coordination of the Neighbourhood Board, ensuring its membership reflects the diversity, experiences and voices of the area. The Chair will bring people together, create space for open and collaborative conversations, and ensure that decisions are shaped by local residents.

Acting with fairness, integrity and a deep connection to the respective area, the Chair will unite local voices and advocate for the community throughout the programme. They will provide strategic leadership, help shape the long-term vision for the neighbourhood, and support the development of a strong and ambitious Pride in Place Plan for the area.

Above all, the Chair's role is to embody the community-led spirit of the programme, championing their place, driving positive change, and helping to improve the lives of people across the neighbourhood.

What is the role of the Neighbourhood Board?

The Neighbourhood Board is the key local decision-making body responsible for shaping the long-term vision and priorities for the area. It will guide investment decisions, oversee the development of the Pride in Place Plan, and support the delivery of projects and activities throughout the 10-year programme.

Their role is to ensure the programme's strategic objectives are delivered, with residents having a meaningful role in identifying priorities for their neighbourhood. The board should bring together residents, local businesses, grassroots campaigners, workplace representatives, faith groups, the local MP, community leaders and others with a strong connection to the area. By involving the wider community, the board should develop a shared vision for the future and set out a clear pathway for delivering that vision over the lifetime of the programme.

What will the Chair be expected to do?

The Chair will ideally be a person who:

- Is deeply connected to their community and fiercely committed to making it an even better place to live.
- Can bring together different voices from across their community, to shape a collective vision for the future of their place.
- Has local credibility and will be respected as a leader – even if this is their first leadership role.
- Ensures that all voices are heard and that Board discussions are collaborative.
- Is adept at finding consensus, navigating conflict calmly and impartially, never allowing ego to get in the way of progress.
- Brings together community groups and prioritises community engagement as a central pillar of the programme.
- Is clear about their own knowledge gaps and considers how the makeup of the Board complements this.
- Thinks laterally and creatively about solutions to problems and ways to draw in community voices.
- Acts as a public face and represents the Board externally, and brings figures of different political stripes together.
- Has an understanding of governance and funding environments, ensuring the Board operates transparently and with integrity.
- Supports the development of a diverse and representative Board, welcoming a wide range of voices and perspectives, including those that differ from their own.

The Chair will play an important role in helping ensure the programme remains locally driven and community-focused.

What skills and attributes are being sought?

The skills and attributes of a good Chair would include:

- Fair and balanced, ensuring that all voices are heard
- Good at facilitating conversations, particularly when differences of opinion emerge
- Open to learning, feedback and development, and an interest in mentoring and upskilling others
- Welcoming, open and listens deeply to others
- Calm under pressure and manages conflict well
- Has time to prioritise the role

Does the Chair need to live in the local area?

Yes. We expect that the Chair should be someone who is 'from', living or working in the respective area.

How will the Chair be appointed?

The Independent Chair will be appointed by the local authority following consultation with the local MP, in line with government guidance.

How long will the role last?

The programme is designed as a long-term 10-year regeneration programme. Appointment arrangements, review periods and expectations relating to the Chair role will be confirmed as part of the recruitment and governance process.

Is the Chair a paid position?

In most circumstances we expect this role to be voluntary, similar to that of a school governor or charity trustee. However, to ensure that Neighbourhood Boards have the right leadership and to open the position up to candidates who might otherwise be unable to put themselves forward, reasonable expenses may be reimbursed from the programme's dedicated capacity funding.

How much time commitment is expected?

The time commitment is expected to vary depending on programme stage and activity. This may include:

- Lead and attendance at Board meetings
- Engagement events and stakeholder meetings
- Preparation and review of programme documentation
- Partnership and community engagement activity

Further detail will be provided during the recruitment process.

What support will the Chair receive?

The Chair will receive officer support from the council to assist with:

- Governance and administration
- Meeting coordination

- Programme reporting and documentation
- Stakeholder engagement
- Communications and delivery support

The council, as accountable body, will provide oversight and programme coordination support throughout delivery.

What governance responsibilities will the Chair have?

The Chair will be expected to support high standards of governance, transparency and accountability.

This includes:

- Supporting fair and transparent decision-making
- Leading and managing meetings appropriately
- Supporting compliance with governance requirements
- Promoting collaborative and respectful working practices

What qualities are important for the role?

The role requires someone who is:

- Collaborative and inclusive
- Community-focused
- Strategic and impartial
- An effective communicator
- Able to build trust and partnerships
- Committed to transparency and accountability

The Chair should be able to work constructively with residents, partners and stakeholders while helping maintain confidence in the programme.

For more information, please see the project pages at letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/prideinplace-enfieldwash and letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/prideinplace-edmonton