

## Are you a 'New Social Leader'?

**We have a fresh and exciting development offer for social leaders such as those in communities, charities and social enterprises.**

Are you passionate about releasing the potential of people, communities and organisations? Do you find yourself inspired by opportunity for change, but frustrated by the challenge required to get there? Are you a team player who enjoys sharing learning with others?

If so, you may want to read on!

Since 2020 small groups of 'New Social Leaders' have been coming together online to build collaborative connections, share learning and grow as a result of a series of structured workshops and brokered connections.

### Who is it aimed at?

Maybe you've recently become a 'team leader', 'senior', 'manager' or something similar that involves leadership of others? Maybe you've been a leader for a few of years and are looking for ideas on how to do things differently? Whoever you are, you should be someone who is seeking an opportunity to learn alongside likeminded, fresh thinking, values-driven leaders who believe in the potential of people and aim to make a positive difference.

*The New Social Leaders initiative has been developed by Nick Sinclair, an experienced social leader and Director working for Community Catalysts CIC. Nick supports local authorities to transform their relationships with communities and build on the strengths of people*

### Typical outcomes from taking part

- New techniques, ideas and tools to effectively lead and manage with confidence.
- New knowledge, techniques and motivation to work collaboratively with others, support local systems change, and help improve outcomes for people and communities.
- Access to ongoing peer support with likeminded new social leaders and brokered connections with senior leaders in the social sector.

### Learning structure/outline

#### Pre-work / Resources:

You will have a chat with the workshop convenor in advance to hear about your learning objectives

You will be given access to audio interviews of social leaders recorded specifically for these workshops, as well as a diverse range of text to explore before and in-between your sessions.

## What we will cover

### Online session 1: Getting to know each other, hearing your thoughts (2 hours)

- Who you are, why you are taking part and what you hope to get out of it? We will hear about what makes you tick, your stories of people who have motivated and inspired you and moments that have shaped your thinking.
- Your thoughts and ideas about the major changes that are going on as a result of Covid-19 and beyond.

### Online session 2: The 'New Social Leader' in a Transactional Management world (2 hours)

- What do the terms "management" and "leadership" really mean and how you can be a transformational leader in a role that requires transactional management.
- How to be a leader when under pressure to get results and achieve targets – how to get the balance right with funders and commissioner's expectations.
- Techniques that help you understand and motivate those you lead.
- Effective team building approaches and how to foster a collaborative learning culture in teams.

### Online session 3: The Practical Challenges of 'New Social Leaders' (2 hours)

- Key leadership 'hacks' and tools.
- Coaching and how can it be useful in the context of your work.
- How to deal with underperformance whilst still remaining your lovely self.
- How to work with people you don't really like.
- How to avoid the pitfall of 'siloes' working practice.

### Online session 4: New Social Leaders of Change (2 hours)

- The different forms of power, where power sits where you are and how you can shift it.
- Co-production and ways to co-produce.
- How to challenge the status-quo with bravery and authenticity.
- Systems you work in, what 'systems change' means and how to get on with it doing it.
- The power of storytelling in bringing about change.

### Online session 5: Reflect and Embed (2 hours)

- Reviewing and embedding learning from previous sessions.
- Reflecting on personal learning objectives and next steps.
- Exploring ideas for future sessions in the wider NSL Network and ways we can stay connected.

### How much will it cost and how do I get involved?

£220+VAT

[Complete an Expression of Interest form](#), or get in touch at [newsocialleaders@communitycatalysts.co.uk](mailto:newsocialleaders@communitycatalysts.co.uk).

## What our participants say

### It's different because it...

- Allows for **freedom** and **flow** of conversation
- Allows for conversation **tangents** and more **discussions**
- Asks **good questions** to push people
- Is **reflective**
- Includes excellent **peer learning**
- Offers cross-country **connections**
- Shares **unique** resources

*“Really good resources - having a range of both short and long reading materials as well as listening interviews meant that I could choose how and when to get through them, without it seeming to be a hassle”*

*“It was really useful to share thoughts with other leaders and surprisingly reassuring to find we were all thinking along the same lines”*

### People value...

- The **honesty**
- The ability to give and receive – the **reciprocity** of the sessions and group
- **Talking** to others with shared (but different) experiences and feelings
- The personal support the group offered – **safe** and **no judgement**
- The **stretched** thinking
- The **shared** wisdom

### People say it's an opportunity to...

- See and **challenge imposter syndrome**
- **Learn** and **grow**
- See **new ways** of approaching things

*“Things have really changed for me as a result of trying the different approaches”*

*“It was like therapy”*

## Learning together

*“Everyone participated together well - it did not feel that anyone was judging or questioning”*

*“We got to know each other and built on that”*

*“We created a safe space where we could share – open and honestly”*

*“We all have shared values and perspectives, and this brought us together even though we come from different sectors and perspectives”*

*“This course has so much enrichment learning that it would be impossible not to be moved into action by some element of the course”*

## Sharing experiences

*“We all had chance to talk and share and give opinions”*

*“It was comforting to learn that peers had experienced similar emotions and scenarios, and that you aren't the only one to perhaps find something challenging”*

*“[Taking] the time for reflection and learning with new people with different and shared experiences is a great opportunity”*

*“I have thoroughly enjoyed this course from start to finish, enlightening, thought provoking, but most important, supporting!”*

**If you're thinking of joining us people say...**

*“It's well worth the time”*

*“Make the time to read the materials and take part in discussions, it is valuable!”*

*“Go for it!”*



**INNOVATORS  
LEARN**