



We at The Portland Inn Project are writing a 100 Year Plan with and for our community.

Our Context: Just over 500 households make up the Portland Street triangle, a traditionally working class, but increasingly culturally diverse neighbourhood that sits beside a derelict brownfield & 2 large industrial plants producing sound & air pollution.

In the 2019 Indices of Deprivation, the neighbourhood was cited as being within the top 10% most deprived in the UK, creating additional barriers to work and quality of life for people who live here. A combination of factors means that the neighbourhood has been marginalised for a number of years, and has often been left out of decision making which affect residents locally. Through the work that we are doing, we are forging ways to be in charge of our own decision making, and to make plans for ourselves.

A 100 year plan can be a physical and geographical plan for a community landscape but it works just as well as a concept of change over time. Our 100 Year Plan centres around making our neighbourhood a better place to live for people and planet.

Want to know how you can begin one too? This workshop will share some of the tools* that you can use in your contexts and we will be respond to some important questions related to the four pillars that make up the 100 Year Plan.

We will create a shared landscape that depicts our separate contexts as we begin to map ideas towards our 100 Year Plan.

Workshop leads :

Anna Francis and Rebecca Davies (co directors and artist leads of The Portland Inn Project CIC)

0-5mins - start and Anna reads the 100 year plan influencing tool document.

5-20mins

ROOTS

Question 1 > What is in your landscape? What are our treasures and what's already here? Draw out our landscape. You're not starting with a blank canvas – there are existing landscapes, acknowledging indigenous assets, customs and knowledge.

ACTION : Draw these elements that are existing in your landscape or you want to exist?

20-35mins

CONNECTIONS

Question 2 > What would your dream landscape look like? Are there areas that need to be cleared? Are there areas that need to be rethought?

ACTION : Overlay things onto your landscape – begin designing that landscape. Continue discussion.

35-45mins

HOPES

Question 3 > Who is in the garden and how are they using it? This is a stakeholder question. Who is already there – and needs to be consulted on this and included in the thinking of your plan. And who might be missing from the conversation? How do we engage with those ppl if they are not engaged already?

ACTION : Draw that person or those ppl into the garden – where are they placed in the garden? Then each person shares one person each. 5 mins act and 5 mins share back.

45mins-55mins

FUTURE ACTIONS

Question 4 > SWOT analysis. This is also helpful for business planning. Now you need to think about what the risks and opportunities are. Sometimes we experience mission drift, and are taken away from the priorities – however, sometimes this is helpful – how do we make space for this, but also maintain our mission?

ACTION : Ten minutes to discuss this together.

55mins-1hour – Close and take away these questions to think about

What do we need to do to deliver our plan?

What are the long term steps that we will take. Now that we have fleshed out what the landscape looks like and who is in it, it's important to now have a delivery plan – so think about how you're going to deliver your dream garden.

Workshop materials :

Paper

Scissors

Pens

(provided by The Portland Inn Project)

*The thinking behind the tools: You don't try to develop the whole garden at once, you work on sections of the garden at a time. Sometimes once you have dug over an area, and planted something, it grows on its own, and looks after itself, and you really don't have to think about it again for some time, other things you might try in the garden, might not work first time around, so you have to have a rethink, and try something else next year. This is all part of the process, and an opportunity to learn. The beauty of the community garden landscape is that there is space for all ideas within the garden.