



The Citizens' Economic Council on the Cost of Living - Advisory Board

The Citizens' Economic Council on the Cost of Living will re-connect citizens with economic policy and provide meaningful, citizen-led ideas and recommendations on tackling the mounting cost of living crisis. It builds on the success of the 2017 [Citizens' Economic Council](#), which led directly to the Bank of England integrating citizen consultation into its business via the establishment of regular '[Citizens' Panels](#)'. The aim is to establish a similar model for citizen consultation on fiscal policy. The project is funded by Friends Provident Foundation and Barrow Cadbury Trust and the project delivery partners are King's College, London and Ipsos.

The Council will comprise 50 participants, who will be broadly representative of the UK population. In Spring 2023 they will gather to hear evidence on how the cost of living crisis might best be approached. Alongside testimony by a selection of expert witnesses, participants will be exposed to a contrasting range of simulated fiscal policy packages to deliberate over. The Council will then aim to reach consensus, or vote, on alternatives, with a view to generating a set of policy principles and recommendations.

Council recommendations will be written up as a **Citizens' Charter on the Cost of Living**, which will be disseminated and publicised to inform and influence fiscal policy and public debate. Planned events will include a press-briefing, report launch and discussions with relevant stakeholders including policymakers and decision-makers in Parliament. The project aims for Council recommendations to be reflected in discussion or documents that could lead to policy change, e.g. party manifestos, consultations by statutory bodies, select committee evidence or parliamentary questions.

Board members will be able to:

- Influence the planning and remit of the Council by advising on the key issues for discussion;
- Ensure the quality and integrity of the Council by helping to ensure the balance of evidence prepared for the Council, including the choice of relevant expert witnesses;
- Sit in on Council sessions to understand what citizens think about fiscal policy;
- Assist in disseminating the results of the assembly and encouraging wider visibility of the project through relevant professional capacities and networks;
- Participate in project events.

Expectations

- It is anticipated that the Board will meet three times at key milestones of the project between January 2023 and June 2023 to discuss project progress and provide advice;
- Board members may be asked to advise on an individual or collective basis between meetings (e.g. on proposed speakers) as other commitments permit.

Principles

- Membership of the board is voluntary and will not be remunerated;
- The Board operates in an advisory capacity;
- Members may be asked to contribute to assembly sessions where appropriate;
- The Board will operate in a constructive and collegiate manner.