

Field team members/sessional researchers

Social Life is a social enterprise, set up in 2012 by the Young Foundation.

Our mission is to reconnect placemaking with the everyday experience of people and neighbourhoods. We work internationally with communities, built environment professionals, public agencies and governments, putting people and social need at the heart of the way cities, towns and new developments are planned, developed and managed.

We are looking to recruit experienced researchers to join our field team. These positions are offered on a freelance contract, as and when work is available, and therefore the number of days is variable. We anticipate a small number of days in April and May for team members and we hope to have more over the summer.

Social Life often carries out in depth research in local areas with residents. Recently we have worked in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe, Basildon, Hackney and Barnet. We believe that one of the best way to engage people in research is to go to places where they are comfortable in their everyday lives - this could be outside a supermarket, in the street on the way to work, at a festival, in a community centre or waiting outside the school gates. To do this we often use street interviews, or pop up focus groups.

We are looking to recruit a number of people to join our field team, as part of a group of experienced researchers who can carry out fieldwork for us on a sessional basis.

This work is based around our field team's availability, as we understand that people doing freelance work are often juggling many tasks in their lives. Fieldwork can be conducted during the week and at the weekends.

The job will include:

- Carrying out street interviews and pop-up focus groups in different locations, both in London and outside London
- Speaking to people from a variety of different backgrounds
- Writing up findings in a given format
- Working alongside Social Life staff or other field team members cooperatively and supportively
- (*Possibly*) supporting Social Life's participatory research projects including helping with workshops and facilitating discussions

We are looking for people with:

- Good experience of carrying out research with residents or service users in similar settings
- Confidence and skills in speaking to people from different backgrounds, and able to approach people in the street and gain their trust rapidly
- The ability to deal with challenging situations, to diffuse conflict and to understand how to manage the potential risks of this type of work
- The confidence to work on their own initiative
- *Desirable:* experience of in depth qualitative or ethnography and/or experience of participatory design and facilitation and/or experience of research with young people

We can offer:

- An opportunity to develop your research skills and experience as part of a friendly team
- £150.00 per day plus travel expenses for work outside of London

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