

## **COMMUNITY PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT**

### **'Rochdale at work'**

#### **❖ The Idea**

150 years ago, Rochdale Town Hall opened its grand doors. The building is described by the authoritative architectural historian Pevsner as “*one of the dozen most ambitious High Victorian town halls of England...of rare picturesque beauty, boasting splendid interior schemes*”. Today, Rochdale Town Hall still boasts many fine and exquisite examples of craftsmanship. One of these is the ceiling of the Small Exchange, which is adorned with hand-painted panels depicting the professions that were thriving at the time of the Town Hall’s opening in 1871. These panels depict a range of jobs, everything from clog making to millinery, farming to farriering.

When the town hall re-opens in 2023, we would like to have both a physical and digital display of photography that relates to ‘Rochdale at work’ today. We want to capture a visual memory of the kinds of jobs that Rochdaliens do in 2021-2023. We are looking to capture as broad a selection of occupations as possible, and are particularly keen to see images of people and places that do not usually make it into the public realm.

We are also looking to capture some images of the places that people work, and some of the equipment that they use.

We are looking for high quality, colour or black and white portraits of Rochdaliens who work, and photos of Rochdaliens doing their day-to-day jobs. The emphasis of the images should be on capturing the essence of the person and the job that they do.

Images meeting the criteria will be displayed on the web, via our social media channels and in the town hall.

#### **❖ Location**

You will be asked to take photos that reflect *all* geographical parts of Rochdale, from the very urban to the very rural.

#### **❖ Support**

Unfortunately, we cannot provide any photographic equipment for this project.

We will, however, be providing some bespoke photography workshops with professional photographers. These non-obligatory, free of charge workshops will equip you with some of the skills to take high quality portraits and ‘people shots.’

### ❖ Benefits

“What’s in it for me?,” you may well ask!

We will acknowledge you on all the physical and digital exhibition and interpretation materials in which the photos that you have taken appear.

You will be invited to the grand re-opening of the Town Hall in late summer 2023.

Your work, if it is chosen to appear in the exhibitions, will reach audiences exceeding 200,000 per year. If you are looking to broaden and enhance your profile as a photographer, we are happy to play our part in this.

### ❖ Technical specifications

- Images should be supplied electronically in the following formats: JPEG, TIFF, or EPS.
- Originals should only be supplied if electronic versions are not available.
- Images should be emailed, when finished, to: **townhall@rochdale.gov.uk**
- **Resolution:** Images should be supplied at 300dpi at full size. Using a lower-than-recommended resolution setting may result in degradation of the printed image. Images prepared for Web use with low resolution will not reproduce correctly and will be rejected. Conversely, saving an image at a resolution higher than the recommended settings will not improve the image quality. Image quality is very important in how your pictures will reproduce.
- Any image that does not meet the required technical specifications will be rejected.

### ❖ Consent

It is **very important** that you gain consent from both the person that you are photographing and the person/organisation who owns or manages the place that you are photographing, if you are photographing somebody within a business or private premises. This could include, but is not exclusive to, places like, for example, shops or factories. This would also apply if you are photographing colleagues within your own place of work.

We will supply the correct form to enable you to achieve the permissions required. This form can be downloaded from our website - [Town Hall | Rochdale Development Agency \(investinrochdale.co.uk\)](http://investinrochdale.co.uk)

Before we can accept any photos, you must ensure that the subject(s) of your photograph(s) have signed this form. We will need to see an electronic or hard copy of this form. Consent forms should be emailed along with the images. Alternatively, complete consent forms can be posted to Rochdale Town Hall or dropped off at the main gate at Rochdale Town Hall.

Any person(s) that you photograph for this project should be given a copy of the consent form which explains what the project is and how the photographs in which they appear will be used. This form includes Rochdale Borough Council's contact details so that subjects photographed can get in touch with the Council should they later change their mind about participation.

Please also ensure that anybody captured in the background of the shot, who is identifiable, also gives their written consent to be photographed.

Please ensure that you don't capture images of anybody who is under the age of 18 in any of your photos.

We will be unable to use any images that do not have the permission of the subject, and anybody who is on the picture and is identifiable.

#### ❖ **Captions/Text**

We would love it if you can supply a title for each of the images that you submit. We would also love it if you can submit comments about the image: why you took it, the story behind it, and any anecdotes about its subjects. We will include this information as part of our display(s).

#### ❖ **Number of photos**

Individuals can submit a maximum number of **10 images** each to this project.

#### ❖ **Final Decisions**

We thank everyone who takes the time to take photos and submit them to us. Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, the Town Hall team may be unable to use all the images supplied to the project. A panel composed of exhibition designers, professional photographers and Town Hall Managers will decide which photos are used. The panel's decision will be final.

❖ **Ownership**

As this is a Rochdale Borough Council project, copyright of the images will rest with Rochdale Borough Council. This will be made clear to the subjects of the photos. Photos will be kept on our records for 20 years. Photographers will be credited on all displays of work.

❖ **Volunteer Information**

Please record the time that you spend helping us with this project. It is important to us that your time and efforts are recognised by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the principal funder of the Rochdale Town Hall project.

We will issue you with a proforma on which to record the time and dates you have spent helping us on this project.

❖ **Timescales**

This project will run from January 2022 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

From July 2022, images meeting the criteria will be displayed on the town hall website. Images that are chosen for display within the town hall will be on show to visiting members of the public from September 2023.

❖ **Covid-19**

We ask that photographers and their subjects comply with the latest government guidelines regarding Covid-19. For example, subjects and photographers should wearing face masks in certain places of work.

❖ **Further information**

For more details about this project, please visit our website: [Town Hall | Rochdale Development Agency \(investinrochdale.co.uk\)](https://www.investinrochdale.co.uk) . Alternatively, you can contact the town hall team by email at [townhall@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:townhall@rochdale.gov.uk) or by phone on 01706 924797.

We look forward to seeing your work!