

## **What is a Design Associate?**

Design Associates (DAs) are design professionals working at the top of their field in public and private sector organisations, who are passionate about the power of design to change people's lives for the better.

They are typically independent design professionals with a range of clients or hold permanent roles which offer them the flexibility to work with Design Council as needed, to help deliver our programmes.

The role offers them a great opportunity to use their skills and expertise to help us deliver our mission, creating a more sustainable and inclusive society, through design.

## **Who makes a good DA?**

Whilst we recruit our DAs from a wide range of backgrounds and design disciplines, we are interested in candidates who can demonstrate the following skills and accomplishments.

- They have been in practice for a number of years and have built up a breadth of knowledge and experience across a range of ground-breaking and innovative projects.
- They have excellent people skills, but are not afraid to ask difficult and challenging questions and suggest daring ideas when required.
- They have experience exploring issues deeply to get to the root cause of an issue, look widely across a system and reframe problems as opportunities.
- They have experience of taking products or services to market and can articulately describe the impact they've had.
- They can mentor, coach and advise senior stakeholders, drawing upon their own design experience and examples, to 'bring to life' design and demonstrate its impact.

- They are well versed in design processes and methods and have extensively used these when consulting and working on projects.
- They can see the power of collaboration and help people and organisations join the dots with others working to a similar goal.
- They have understanding and experience in navigating organisational structures to achieve success.
- They see the value of making and creating as a way of helping teams move forward and see what is possible.
- They are great facilitators of multidisciplinary teams, understanding how to manage and engage a room, dealing with challenges that might arise in a highly professional manner.

We are specifically looking for people who have the right combination of design and design management skills, organisation consulting skills and excellent people skills.