

ITEM	TOTAL	
Relocation of office further and event furniture hire	£6,950.22	This item did not come out of the event budget, and instead was offered by facilities budget.
COS AV package	£6,741.00	
Catering (200 guests)	£1,369.20	By agreeing to host the event for PLU, we committed to providing a standard of refreshments.
Drinks & glass hire package (200 guests)	£487.45	
Tesco online order - soft drinks, savoury snacks	£161.07	
Cake toppers	£41.50	
ICO Branded Pens	£139.96	
Host (from PLU)	£500.00	
Photographer (from PLU)	£200.00	
Videographers (from PLU)	£1,200.00	
Staff travel and accommodation	£2053.03	Comms team had regular in-person internal team meetings, with the team being split between geographically across the nations. This item did not come out of the event budget.
	£19,843.43	

NEWS

We've been chosen to host the first 'People Like Us' event of 2024



Angela Balakrishnan

Executive Director Strategic Communications

Published 25/01/2024

Angela Balakrishnan discusses why we've been chosen to host the inaugural People Like Us event of the year and what the charity means to her.

Who are People Like Us?

People Like Us (PLU) are an award-winning not-for-profit organisation that celebrates and supports media, marketing, and communications professionals from Black, Asian, Mixed Race and minoritised ethnic backgrounds.

I've written before about [my experiences being a south-Asian woman working in communications](#). It was a bit of a lonely place – there aren't many of us in the profession, particularly in leadership roles. I was breaking free from cultural traditions and treading new ground.

Since discovering People Like Us, I've found a real sense of belonging.



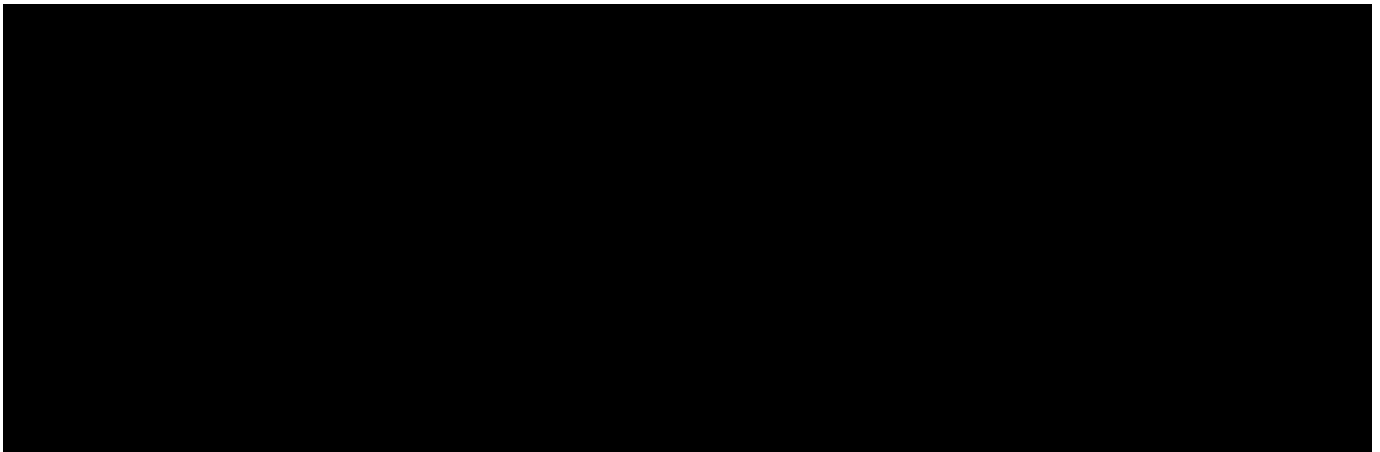
Angela Balakrishnan

This wonderfully supportive, inspirational community has reinforced my belief that we don't need to fit into neat boxes or labels, we can forge new paths, be proud of our cultural identities and achieve brilliant things.

Alongside their fantastic work to close the ethnicity pay gap, PLU host quarterly events to shine a spotlight on people from underrepresented backgrounds.

Each event has 10 speakers from ethnically diverse backgrounds, who can share their story, or a piece of work they're proud of in just three minutes.

It's a fun challenge that has helped past speakers go on to land amazing new roles, make tonnes of great connections and most importantly, show the rest of the industry what People Like Us are made of.



I am incredibly proud that PLU has chosen to partner with us. It's a collaboration between two organisations who are making a profound difference to people's lives. Arvind Johal from our Strategic Communications team will be taking on one of the speaker slots on the night to share his story.

Last year we launched our [EDI Objectives](#) which focus on representing the communities we serve, building an inclusive culture and better understanding the needs of everyone to deliver services that are accessible to all.

Events like our PLU collaboration support this. It helps drives awareness of the work



Our EDI objectives on a page

we do with new audiences and brings their fresh perspectives to our world.

Our [3-year EDI Action Plan](#) is in full swing and we're making progress.

Alongside our annual gender pay gap report, this year, we'll be voluntarily publishing our ethnicity pay gap report. We want to take a proactive approach and be transparent about the progress we have made, and the work that is needed to reach our target of having 18% of senior leaders from ethnic minority backgrounds.

Save the Date

This event will be from 6–9pm on Thursday 14 March at the London Office. Tickets will be available directly through the People Like Us website from 14 February.



People Like Us x ICO logos

We're hosting the next People Like Us event in our London Office

Published 01/03/2024

Last month, [we told you](#) we've been chosen to host the next [People Like Us](#) event in our London office on 14 March from 6pm to 9pm.

It's a great opportunity to support our [EDI work](#), and to help raise our awareness to a new audience. You can find out more information about our partnership with People Like Us in Ange's post on [Iris](#).

We're really excited about the event which is proving very popular.

Tickets sold out within a couple of hours but we still have a very limited number of tickets available for colleagues based in London, so please contact [\[REDACTED\]](#) [@ico.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@ico.org.uk) if you're interested.

We'll need to make a few temporary changes in the London office to host this event, and as such it will be closed to colleagues on Thursday 14 – Friday 15 March so we can make those changes.

If you're planning on visiting our London office in the next month, please take these dates into consideration.

We appreciate your understanding during this time and look forward to telling you more about the event after it's taken place.

People Like Us event

From: [Private Office Comms Public Affairs](#)
To: [Private Office Group](#); [London](#)
Cc: [Private Office Comms Public Affairs](#); [Facilities](#)
Subject: People Like Us Event - 14 - 15 March - London Office
Date: 22 February 2024 17:04:00

Hi everyone,

As you may have seen, we've been chosen to host the next People Like Us event in the London office on **14 March (6 – 9pm)**.

This is a great opportunity to support our EDI work, and to help raise awareness of the ICO to a new audience. You can find out more information about our partnership with People Like Us here: [We've been chosen to host the first 'People Like Us' event of 2024 \(sharepoint.com\)/](#).

We're really excited about the event, which was in very high demand with tickets selling out within a couple of hours. We still have a very limited number of tickets available for colleagues based in London, so please contact [\[REDACTED\]@ico.org.uk](#) if you're interested.

The London office will be reconfigured to host this event, and as such will be closed on **Thursday 14 – Friday 15 March** to facilitate this. We appreciate your understanding.

Thanks very much,



Private Secretary to Angela Balakrishnan -
Executive Director of Strategic Communications and Public
Affairs

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane,
Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

[\[REDACTED\]@ico.org.uk](#)

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