

Constitution of Preston City of Sanctuary Group

1) Name.

The name of the Group shall be: Preston City of Sanctuary

2) Aim.

The aim of the Group shall be:

To promote the inclusion and welfare of refugees and asylum-seekers, by encouraging Preston to make a public commitment to becoming a place of welcome and safety by adopting the title of 'City of Sanctuary'.

To encourage and support local communities and voluntary, community and faith (VCF) organisations in welcoming and assisting asylum-seekers and refugees.

To publicise and celebrate the contribution of asylum-seekers and refugees to their local communities, and to UK society and culture, and to challenge hostility and discrimination against them.

3) Powers

In order to achieve its aim the Group may:

- a) Raise money
- b) Open bank accounts
- c) Acquire and run buildings
- d) Take out insurance
- e) Employ staff
- f) Organise courses and events
- g) Work with similar Groups and exchange information and advice with them
- h) Do anything that is lawful which will help it to fulfil its aim.

4) Membership.

a) Membership of the Group shall be open to any individual over eighteen without regards to disability, political or religious affiliation, race, sex or sexual orientation who is:

interested in helping the Group to achieve its aim

willing to abide by the rules of the Group and

willing to pay any subscription agreed by the Management Committee.

b) The membership of any member may be terminated for good reason by the Management Committee: Provided that the member concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Management Committee, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is made.

5) Management.

- a) The Group shall be administered by a Management Committee of not less than three and not more than 15 individuals elected at the Group's Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.).
- b) The Officers of the Management Committee shall be: the Chairperson, the Treasurer and the Secretary.
- c) The Management Committee may co-opt onto the Committee, up to three individuals, in an advisory and non-voting capacity that it feels will help to fulfil the aim of the Group.
- d) The Management Committee shall meet at least two times a year.
- e) At least three Management Committee members must be present for a Management Committee meeting to take place.
- f) Voting at Management Committee meetings shall be by a show of hands. If there is a tied vote then the Chairperson shall have a second vote.
- g) The Management Committee shall have the power to remove any member of the Committee for good and proper reason.
- h) The Management Committee may appoint any other member of the Group as a Committee member to fill a vacancy, provided that the maximum prescribed is not exceeded.

Date: Adopted February 27 2017

Founding core group members

Cllr Peter Rankin (Chair)
Cllr Roy Leeming (Treasurer)
Greg Smith
Andrew Pratt
Jen Rankin
Magda Massey