

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 sanctuary status, 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 Core Group .

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

5) Management.

a) The Group shall be administered by a Management Committee known as the Core Group 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 Core Group shall be: the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

c) The Core Group may co-opt 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 Core Group shall meet at least three times a year.

e) At least three core group members must be present for a Core Group meeting to take place.

f) Voting at Core Group meetings shall be by a show of hands. If there is a tied vote then the Chairperson shall have a second vote.

g) The Core Group shall have the power to remove any member of the Core Group for good and proper reason.

1. h) The Core Group may appoint any other member of the Group as a Core Group member to fill a vacancy, provided that the maximum prescribed is not exceeded.

Date: Adopted February 27 2017 By the founding core group members: Cllr Peter Rankin (Chair) Cllr Roy Leeming (Treasurer) Greg Smith, Andrew Pratt, Jen Rankin and Magda Massey

Reviewed and Revised on 29th October 2022 by The Core Group

Amendments were Agreed at the PCOS AGM on 5th December 2022

Proposed: Dawn B Judd

Seconded Suely