**KCPIN minutes**

**19th Jan 2016**

**Town Hall**

**Attendees:** Cath Vadhia (Age UK), Firooza Fattahi (CAB), Stephen Duckworth (Notting Hill Methodist Church), Keither Usher (CAB), Marian O’Donoghue (ADKC).

**Review of Private Renters’ Rights Campaign**

**What worked well?**

* Timing of project – nationally emphasis on housing. Project came about at the right time.
* Terrific report on what was going on.
* Role of agencies – fees they charge, something to consider. It has been abandoned in Scotland.

**What could we do better?**

* Affordability was an issue that was not covered, not enough strong evidence so could not be as bold.
* Follow up the 96% article.
* Could we do more publicity, on the impact of housing benefit, people not being able to afford their rent?
* Step-by-step guide to the council on our recommendations.
* Advisory board, how to use them better, assign them specific tasks.

**2016 local campaign planning**

The network discussed the following ideas on a local campaign issues:

1. **Older people and isolation**

* Mental health issue, and coping with housing on their own. Older people present themselves as homeless and must see through housing problems alone with limited support. A lot out there to reduce social isolation. Running classes, offer activities. Primary care navigators are there to support. Dalgarno is looking at older men and social isolation. Disabled people early 50’s do not fall into bracket of older people so are left out of support networks and services.

1. **Food banks**

* What is the Council’s view on it? Some work could be undertaken on informing ward Councillors how many depend on food banks. Benefit sanctions contributes to the increase of food bank dependencies. Earls Court – people must travel, and they do not claim the expense. CAB retains stats. Collate official food bank stats. Future work to focus on presenting a solution on what can be done. Inform council on why they exist. According to Councillor Healey the Council is not too aware of them. Invite Trussell Trust for a conversation. Interview Trussell trust Managers. Use the output (report) as an information tool.

1. **Young people’s mental health**

* There is currently a JSNA Tri-borough proposal. It is investigating the experiences of University students. The network agreed there was little benefit in duplicating this work.

1. **The network discussed the following additional ideas:**

* Release of offenders and the support they receive thereafter.
* Cost of charging electricity. This could link in with food banks.

**It was decided that some in-depth research and intelligence gathering on food banks would lend itself to a niche and necessary project in the borough to tackle the root cause of poverty and inequality.**

**The project findings will be launched prior to August 2016.**