



KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA POVERTY AND INEQUALITY NETWORK (KCPIN) TERMS OF REFERENCE

About KCPIN

The Kensington and Chelsea Poverty and Inequality Network, formerly known as Poverty Watch group, was earlier set up as a local observatory, bringing together the voluntary and community and statutory sector to share evidence on poverty and its impact. The evidence collated was used to help influence local decision making.

The project has successfully secured funding for a further two years. As such, the new direction of the network is to create an informal coalition of agencies, charities and bodies across the sectors to serve two primary functions (i) to act as a steering committee for the effective planning and delivery of the Poverty Watch project (note. project name to be revised in coming days) and, (ii) to bring together the sectors to monitor and campaign on poverty and inequality issues in the borough.

Our Vision

KCPIN is committed to an ethos of collaborative working, supporting organisations and residents to come together to lobby and campaign on matters which promote equality and fairness to benefit the citizens of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and which are based upon evidence created through rigorous research and analysis of local needs.

Our values and principles

- To promote empowerment and improve the quality of life of the most marginalised groups living in the Royal Borough
- Commitment to an accessible and client centred service
- To intervene effectively and provide realistic and practical advice to service users to achieve successful outcomes
- To ensure our service is inclusive and reaches all communities

Aims

KCPIN's main objectives are to:

- bring together the sectors to advice and steer the future direction, and milestones set forth by the Senior Officer working to deliver the Poverty Watch project.
- to support project research, delivery and actions wherever possible.
- to share intelligence on poverty and inequality issues in the borough.
- to explore, and facilitate a coalition approach, and coordinated action between network members, to tease out future campaign issues, and appropriate tactics for tackling poverty and inequality in the borough.

Full Membership

Full membership is open to voluntary sector organisations providing Information, advice and guidance services to people in the borough, who are committed to promoting the social and economic wellbeing of communities. It is helpful to have a range of representatives from all sections of the community at meetings. Statutory representation is by invitation only.

Meetings

- Meetings will be held quarterly in venues accessible to members.

Terms of Reference

(i) Purpose and approach

- Meetings will ordinarily be divided into two subsections, the first to include a project presentation from the KCSC Senior Officer, followed by workshops, and the second section for updates or presentations on relevant areas prioritised by network members.
- The approach and set up of meetings will vary to allow flexibility, open discussion, and encourage participation and fresh thinking. The first of the meetings will take the form of a knowledge café, subsequent ones will be decided by the Senior Officer in agreement with the network prior to meetings.
- The network will act as a steering/advisory group to the overall strategic design of the Poverty Watch project, and serve to monitor the project plans, delivery and outcomes.
- Members of the network may be expected to participate in, and offer support wherever possible, to ensure the effective delivery and implementation of the project and its phases.
- In addition to feeding into the strategic development of the Poverty Watch project, the network will be invited to share policy/grassroots community issues on poverty and inequality, ensuring that community groups concerns and other relevant issues about the sector are raised, explored and tactics developed to action.
- The network should take a strategic overview to prioritising future poverty and inequality issues in the borough, and encourage a coalition approach towards working to deliver campaigns and lobbying on issues.

(ii) Membership and review

- The network may invite other relevant participants to its meetings as and when appropriate.
- The network will be serviced by KCSC who will maintain a database of members and be responsible for minute-taking. KCSC will circulate minutes and agendas to forum members and other relevant parties as agreed by the forum.
- The network shall have a rotating chair elected on an annual basis.
- The network will regularly review its role and its membership and will agree priorities for future meetings in consultation with network members.
- The network will proactively seek to ensure diversity within its membership and to ensure its makeup is reflective of all communities providing advice within the borough.
- Items for the agendas should be submitted via the Chair of KCPIN.

(iii) Accountability

- Individual members will be responsible for reporting back on activities undertaken as per agreed in meetings by the network, and follow up actions proposed in future.