

Wolverhampton City of Sanctuary

Constitution

Adopted on 11th January 2017

1) Name.

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

2) Aims.

The aims of the Group shall be:

To promote the inclusion and welfare of refugees and asylum-seekers
To encourage and support local communities, businesses, and statutory, voluntary, community and faith 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 aims the Group may:

- a) Work closely with and strive to involve people seeking sanctuary in Wolverhampton
- b) Work with other similar groups and exchange information and advice with them
- c) Publicise and promote the core principles via a wide range of media
- d) Work towards achieving formal support for the core principles of the City of Sanctuary movement from a broad and diverse range of local organisations, businesses, voluntary, faith and community groups
- e) Organise courses and events
- f) Engage in fund-raising activities and open a bank account
- g) Take out insurance
- h) Recruit and support volunteers and to do all such other lawful things as are necessary to further the objects of the organisation.

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 aims
- 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 nine and not more than thirteen individuals elected annually by the membership at the Group's Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.).
- b) The Officers of the Management Committee shall be: the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, the Treasurer and the Secretary.
- c) The Management Committee may co-opt onto the Committee up to five individuals or organisations 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 four Management Committee members, including two Officers, must be present for a Management Committee meeting to take place.
- f) The Management Committee may set up sub-committees and working groups from time to time, establishing their terms of reference and any delegated responsibilities as appropriate.
- g) The Management Committee shall keep minutes of the proceedings at its meetings and of any sub-committee
- h) 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.
- i) The Management Committee shall have the power to remove any member of the Committee for good and proper reason.
- j) 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.
- k) A bank or building society account shall be established in the name of the Group and withdrawals shall be made in its name on the signature of any two of four named committee members

6) **Dissolution**

The Group may be dissolved at any time by means of a resolution agreed by a two thirds majority of those present and voting at any annual general meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. The Organisation's assets will be distributed as voted upon at that meeting, following the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, to another voluntary organisation with similar objects.

Date:

Signed (Committee):