

# HARINGEY

## Fairness Commission

### Terms of Reference

#### Context

Haringey is a place of great opportunity and diversity, but we want to ensure that everyone who lives here is able to take advantage of the opportunities that living in Haringey – and London – affords.

Haringey is the sixth most deprived borough in London. This ranking however, conceals the inequalities which exist within the borough with, for example, poverty and deprivation significantly concentrated in specific geographical areas. Poverty and deprivation have remained stubbornly high despite deprivation, on a national level, reducing since 2010. There are huge challenges in ensuring access to decent housing; sustainable, better-paid employment; tackling social care, health and mental health issues; dealing with child poverty; enabling all children to reach their full potential; and helping our residents to manage growing household costs.

The recommendations will support and inform the priorities identified in the Haringey Borough Plan.

#### Purpose of the Commission

The aim of the Commission is to set out a vision and priorities for achieving a fairer Borough, making practical and strategic recommendations that the Council and partners can act on. This will be achieved by:

- Focusing on hearing about the priorities, lived experiences and ideas of residents, community groups and businesses.
- Reviewing evidence from a range of sources, including local, regional and national data.
- Using this evidence to identify key areas of inequality and the reasons why these inequalities exist and persist - recognising that they are complex and often interconnected; and focusing on inequalities where action at a local level can make an impact.
- Exploring a broad range of options for addressing the key issues, learning from the ideas of local people and evidence of what has worked elsewhere.
- Recommending practical and strategic actions that the Council and partners can take to tackle inequality

## Membership and status

The name of the group is the 'Haringey Fairness Commission'. The Commission will be Co-Chaired by Cllr. Kaushika Amin and Professor Paul Watt from Birkbeck, University of London.

Membership will comprise Councillors, key public sector organisations, VCSE groups and local residents with relevant skills and experiences. A full list of Commissioners is included in Annex A.

## Authority

The Commission can independently decide which topics or themes it will focus on and the recommendations that it chooses to make.

The Commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the Council. The Commission will have no decision making or budgetary powers in relation to the work of the Council, but can make recommendations to the Council which may have an impact on these in the future (being mindful of budgetary pressures).

### Haringey Council's Cabinet will:

- Receive updates on the Commission's work;
- Receive the final report of the Commission; and
- Respond to any findings and recommendations of the Commission.

The Commission can also make recommendations to other public bodies as it considers appropriate.

## The approach to its work

The Commission will operate in a fair and transparent way, looking to share its work with local residents and will engage them in the process of determining what most matters in terms of outcomes. This means including evidence from those participating in the Commission as it is heard, without any amendments. The Commission will see its work as being outside party politics and will draw on the diversity of thought and experience offered by its range of members.

Commissioners commit to properly considering the oral evidence put before them and to being well prepared in terms of any written material circulated to them.

In thinking about how to effect change, the Commission will consider the possible contributions of a range of organisations in the borough.

## Role of the Co-Chairs

The Co-Chairs will work closely together to shape the work and recommendations developed by the Commission, with input from all Commissioners. This will be a collaborative relationship, but the Co-Chairs will have ultimate responsibility for decision-making in relation to the work of the Commission.

## **Commissioners' role**

Commissioners will work with the Co-Chairs to provide strategic direction, drawing on their knowledge, expertise and connection into communities to support the development of the Commission's **work**.

Consensus from all members will be sought on key decisions relating to the work of the Commission. However as stated above, the Co-Chairs will have ultimate responsibility for any decisions taken.

## **Co-opted members**

The Commission will be able to co-opt members as and when required. The Co-Chair will have responsibility for identifying and appointing new Commissioners, but will discuss this with the wider Commission before appointments are confirmed.

## **Frequency of meetings**

Commission meetings will take place on average every 4-6 weeks.

## **Support**

Secretariat support will be provided by Haringey Council Strategy and Communications Directorate.

A budget of up to £20,000 is available to enable the Commission to carry out its role.

## **Planned programme of work**

It is anticipated that the Commission will operate from July 2018 to autumn 2019. Further details of project plan.

## Annex A - Commission Membership

Co-Chairs – Professor Paul Watt and Councillor Kaushika Amin

The following people are confirmed Commissioners:

- Lynette Charles - Chief Executive of Mind in Haringey
- Councillor Lucia das Neves - Chair of Overview and Scrutiny
- Dara de Burca - Local Resident and Director of Children and Young People **at the Children's** Society
- Jeanelle De Gruchy - President of the Association of Directors of Public Health
- Councillor Erdal Dogan – Labour Councillor for Seven Sisters Ward
- Matt Dykes – Trade Union Congress
- Councillor Joseph Ejiofor - Council Leader
- Councillor Scott Emery – Liberal Democrat Councillor for Muswell Hill
- Zina Etheridge - Chief Executive Haringey Council
- Sharon Grant OBE - Public Voice
- Tony Hartney - Headteacher Gladesmore Community School and Crowland Primary School
- Tony Hoolaghan - Chief Operating Officer Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group
- Bibi Khan - LICS Wightman Road Mosque and Multi-Faith Forum
- Barbara Lisicki - Disability rights activist
- Paul Butler - Chief Executive of the Selby Trust
- Rabbi David Mason - Muswell Hill Synagogue and Multi-Faith Forum
- Radojka Miljevic - Local Resident and Partner at Campbell Tickell
- Helen Millichap - Borough Commander
- Reverend Paul Nicolson - Taxpayers Against Poverty
- Dr Geoffrey Ocen - Chief Executive of the Bridge Renewal Trust
- **Sean O'Donovan and Kellie Dorrington** - Haringey Citizens Advice
- Rob Tao – Haringey Business Alliance

Catherine West MP and David Lammy MP will be attending the Commission meetings and events when available.