

BOPF Manifesto 2020

Bristol Older People's Forum (BOPF) represents older people across Bristol. Formed in 1993 it has nearly 3,000 members aged fifty-five and above.

Its main mission is:

'For every older person in the city to be an equal, valued and participating member of the community, able to influence policy and decision-making, challenge ageism and promote Bristol as an Age Friendly City.'

Our BOPF Manifesto 2020 Pledges:

1. We will recognise both the common ground and the diversity of Bristol's older people, particularly in terms of age, faith, race, class, sexuality, gender and disability. We will always shape our work to reflect these issues.
2. We will listen and act upon the ideas, concerns and challenges identified by BOPF members and all older people in Bristol.
3. We will endeavour to build on the skills, knowledge and experience of older people and consider new and creative ways of ensuring that they are directly involved in the day-to-day decisions that affect them.
4. We will challenge ageism in all its manifestations, from cliché stereotyping, lazy media assumptions of older people, ageist language and policy-making that reinforces discrimination and institutionalised ageism.
5. We will work in partnership with individuals and organisations to tackle all forms of discrimination, including race, faith, class, gender, sexuality and disability.
6. We will offer support to key campaigns and issues of concern that affect older people.
7. We will build a positive dialogue and develop partnership working and networks with other organisations with similar aims.
8. We will work with voluntary sector organisations, businesses and the public sector and advise them on tackling individual/institutional ageism - to improve their services.
9. We will use open and respectful discussion and debate to promote and challenge ideas and thinking on issues affecting older people.

- 10.** We will use our findings from members and conduct our own surveys to identify issues that affect older people. We will then take action, or aim to influence others to do so, to make things better. We will also work with educational institutions and organisations to carry out research to further highlight and inform issues of concern.
- 11.** We will promote 'intergenerational solidarity', working collectively with younger people to tackle the division that perpetuates mis-understanding and discrimination between the age groups.
- 12.** We will continue to develop new and innovative ways of working to meet the needs of all older people.

This BOPF Manifesto 2020 sets out the key thinking behind the work we do and reflects the needs and aspirations of older people in Bristol. Our work-plan is based on our Manifesto.

IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation date: September 2020, Review date: September 2022

REVIEW OR AMENDMENTS TO POLICY (Policy change)

(detail whether the policy has been reviewed or amended). This policy has been reviewed by **BOPF Engagement and Development Manager: Ian Quaife** **Date: 3 September 2020**

Signed: Ian Bickerton, BOPF Chair, 3 September 2020