

# Social Justice Funders Group - Terms of Reference

## Vision and purpose

We share a commitment to ensuring access to justice for people, places, and communities most in need.

We have come together through a shared desire to support an effective, independent not-for-profit legal advice sector that is viable, high quality, able to provide value for money and that is able to make the voices of marginalised communities heard.

## Members

We are made up of independent grant making trusts with a commitment to supporting the not-for-profit legal advice sector, law firms that assist the not-for-profit legal advice sector through providing funding and pro bono support and service commissioners and funders including public bodies, local authorities, and central government departments.

## Activities

We share updates on our activities and future plans to ensure our work is coordinated and we are making the best use of the experience, expertise, and learning generated by our collective knowledge.

The Group uses quarterly meetings (in February, May, August, and November) to enable knowledge, learning, and opportunity exchange, and:

- Learn more about key issues faced by marginalised communities and the role that advice support can play in addressing these issues,
- Engage with new learning relevant to your funding aims and interests and understand best practice around funding advice initiatives,
- Keep up to date with who is doing what, and benefit from sharing experiences around the challenges and opportunities facing grant makers, and
- Explore the potential for coordinated or collaborative activity in areas of shared interest where appropriate.

Where we have engagement from the group, we aim to contribute to relevant policy debates, convene new groups of people to consider issues, create additional opportunities for the advice sector to influence policy and facilitate new initiatives that support the overall purpose of the group.

We think carefully about where to intervene so as to be constructive and effective.

We value the opportunity to learn from each other and acknowledge that our work depends on the quality of the intelligence we gather from others involved in the advice sector.

## Structure

The group meets quarterly. The group is currently convened and chaired by the Access to Justice Foundation and the aim in time is that this role should rotate.