



SANE COLLECTIVE (SOLIDARITY AGAINST NEOLIBERAL EXTREMISM) CONSTITUTION

Mission

SANE is committed to encouraging social progress, protection of people's health and well-being, culture and education, human and ecological rights and responsibilities. To show in our activities, and in how we work together, what can be achieved through promotion of creative democratic structures.

Aims and Objectives

SANE will:

- i. *Examine the impact of neo-liberal policies on our communities*
- ii. *Explore and promote democratic alternatives by modelling, researching, running courses, and supporting individuals and group activities.*
- iii. *Bring people and organisations together to support each other's democratic aspirations*

Membership

- (a) Membership shall be open to anyone who is sixteen (16) years or over and supports the aims of the group. Groups who share **SANE's** vision and aims can affiliate
- (b) An affiliated organisation has one vote. Members of affiliated organisations can choose to become individual members of SANE
- (c) All members with a fully paid up membership shall have voting rights. Membership is £1 per year. Affiliation is £20 per year.
- (d) The Coordinating Group shall have the authority to approve or reject applications for membership or to terminate the membership of a member providing any such applicant or member is given an opportunity to be heard by the coordinating Group before a final decision is made.

Organisation.

- (a) A Coordinating Group elected at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall manage the group.
- (b) The Coordinating Group shall consist of a Coordinator, Treasurer, 2 Ordinary Members and 2 representatives from affiliated organisations.
- (c) The Coordinating Group can co-opt additional voting members to assist if and when this has been agreed at members' meeting.

- (e) The strategic direction of the organisation is decided by the members meeting together at ordinary meetings. Tasks arising from the strategy will be allocated either to The coordinating Group or to a small group of members. These member working groups will have the right to complete tasks, and refer them back to the members, without the coordinating Group having powers to change what they are doing. The coordinating Group exists to facilitate and organise the strategy agreed by the members.
- (d) At least five (5) members, including at least two (2) coordinating Group members must be present for a meeting to be quorate. Any decision taken at a non-quorate meeting must be ratified at the next quorate meeting.
- (e) The Group shall meet at least six (6) times a year including the AGM.
- (f) A proper record of current membership, all meetings including decisions agreed and financial transactions shall be kept.

Coordinating Group

To further the Aims and Objectives of Group the coordinating group has authority from the members to:

- (a) Obtain, collect, or receive monies or funds by way of membership fees, donations, contributions, grants or any other lawful method
- (b) Associate with any statutory, voluntary or educational organisation or group of residents in an effort to pursue the aims of the organisation
- (c) Do all such lawful things that the Committee considers will further the aims and objectives of the organisation.

Meetings

Annual General Meeting

- (a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held within twelve (12) months of the group's Inaugural Meeting and every twelve (12) months thereafter.
- (b) All members shall be given 21 days advance notice of the AGM.. A Call for Nominations for election to the coordinating Group shall also be sent out at this time. Nominations can be made in advance, or at the AGM and Members can nominate themselves.
- (c) Any proposals to change the Constitution or to amend a proposal or to have an item added to the agenda must be sent to the coordinator in advance of the AGM. Any changes to the Constitution must be approved by a two-thirds majority of those attending.
- d) A report on the Group's financial position as approved by an Independent Examiner shall be made available.

Ordinary meetings

- (d) Notice of an Ordinary Meeting shall be given as far in advance as possible. Items on the agenda and changes to it will be agreed by the Coordinating Group. Members are encouraged to submit items for discussion. The agenda can be changed at the meeting if members decide to do that. Members can submit ideas at the meeting and time permitting these will be taken under any other business.
- (e) At Ordinary Meetings, decisions will be reached by consensus, where possible. If after a full discussion this proves impossible, two thirds of those present can make a decision. The outcome/results of any action or policy agreed by majority vote must reviewed at a time to be proposed by the Member who is chairing the meeting; this must be a timely review to consider whether the decision was correct, how the

decision is working out, and to see if a consensus can then be reached for a further stage. It will be the responsibility of the Coordinator to ensure that this review is on the agenda at the agreed time.

Accounts

- (a) The funds of the Group including all membership fees, donations, contributions etc., shall be paid into a bank account managed by the coordinating Group. All financial transactions of the Group must have the approval of any two (2) of coordinator, Treasurer and two other members of the coordinating Group.
- (b) The funds belonging to the Group shall be used only to further the aims and objectives of the group.
- (c) An on-going record of all income and expenditure must be kept. A financial report will be presented to each coordinating Group meeting. This will include presentation of bank records.

Dissolution

- (a) The Group may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.
- (b) If confirmed, the Committee shall distribute any assets remaining after all bills are settled to other charitable groups or organisations having aims similar to those of the Group or some other charitable purpose as the Group may decide.