



## Greater Manchester and Manchester BME Network Membership Criteria

- Written statement of purpose and TOR for decision-making (not necessarily a fully-fledged constitution)
- Value-driven – i.e. statement of purpose is to benefit a ‘good cause’, not to make a profit or benefit the owner(s)
- Non-profit (profits invested back into organisation)
- Assets locked for the benefit of stated good cause (especially check for CICs)
- Accountable to beneficiaries through e.g. membership, elected trustees, local steering group
- Governance function carried out by volunteers
- Majority stake not owned by public or statutory body
- If a ‘social enterprise’, eligible in theory for the ‘social enterprise mark’

The following exclusions will generally apply:

- Regional and national organisations unless their primary focus is Greater Manchester (e.g. there may be organisations that work primarily in Greater Manchester, but whose reach extends to meet needs in neighbouring areas – these may be accepted; organisations seeking to work across the whole region would not be)
- Branches of national organisations unless they can be shown to be either
  - Accountable to a local membership through a formal structure e.g. a board of trustees, local committee or similar
  - Delivering a service specifically commissioned by a local voluntary organisation i.e. on a sub-contract
- Organisations without a base in Greater Manchester, although there could be an exception for a local organisation based within the city region although beyond the political boundary
- Organisations not generally deemed to be voluntary or community organisations, or social / community enterprises, such as universities and colleges, trade unions, housing organisations, subsidiary charities of public or private sector organisations, trusts and similar non-profit organisations emerging from the public sector (e.g. Leisure Trusts), political parties, religions, charitable trusts and funders, think-tanks.

### Criteria for free attendance at BME Events

To be eligible for free attendance you must either meet the above criteria, be based in Greater Manchester, **AND** either representing a BME-led VCSE organisation or an individual from BME background.

**Private companies, consultants and statutory sector organisations are not eligible for free attendance, however, for a charge of £20 per person we will review relevance for attendance.**