

## Residents' Groups and Social Clubs

Hanover encourages residents to form groups and social clubs. These groups create opportunities for residents to socialise, take part in activities, fundraise and develop projects to improve their health, well-being and the quality of life on their estate. Examples of residents groups include:

- Special interest groups e.g. gardening, books, music, arts and craft
- Social committees
- Grandparent clubs
- Lunch clubs
- Fundraising groups
- Coffee mornings
- Campaign groups e.g. to lobby for a safe road crossing
- Learning groups e.g. computers, languages
- Groups that meet with their estate and housing manager to monitor estate services

Where estates have communal rooms and grounds, these are available for residents groups to meet and hold activities. Further details about their use may be found in your local agreement or by speaking with your Estate Manager.

Groups and clubs can be run formally with set objectives, a committee and rules, or informally for residents with a common interest to get together. How formal to make your group or club will depend on its aims or function. Residents' Associations that want to represent residents' views to Hanover and other organisations will need to meet our recognition criteria, (see our [Handbook for Residents' Associations](#)). Groups that wish to apply for external grants, for example from a local authority, may find it helpful to have a constitution. A constitution is a document that sets out the group or club's objectives and how it will work. Other groups and clubs may just need to agree when and where they meet.

We recommend that groups and clubs that raise or collect money open a bank account with two signatories to keep their money safe, and cash kept in resident's homes is kept to a minimum. Groups applying to our Greenshoots small grant fund do need to have a bank account, but don't need to be a Residents' Association or have a constitution.

All groups, clubs and activities should be open for any resident on the estate to join if they wish; irrespective of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy & maternity, race, religion and belief, gender and sexual orientation. You may also wish to invite other older people from your local community to activities or link up with another nearby Hanover estate.

There are many ways to promote your group. These include, posters, leaflets, articles in your estate and other local newsletters or talking to other residents when you meet.

Your Estate Manager, if you have one, can provide guidance particularly about the types of groups and clubs that will work well on your estate and how formal they should be. Our Handbook for Residents' Groups and Social Clubs provides further detail on how to set up a group or social club.