



# GATESHEAD POVERTY TRUTH CHARTER

**Do you want to help reduce poverty?**

**Do you want to be a part of the solution  
rather than the problem?**

You are invited to work with Gateshead Poverty Truth Commission to learn from experts by experience about how to help end poverty in Gateshead.

We will work with you so that you can sign our Charter, and pledge to:

- 1. recognise the existence in Gateshead of widespread poverty.**
- 2. engage with people experiencing poverty when you make policy and procedural decisions which affect them.**
- 3. recognise that people in poverty should not be stigmatised. Instead they should be given dignity, and be empowered to find routes out of poverty.**



**POVERTY  
TRUTH**

**GATESHEAD**

In order to join the Charter your organisation or business must meet at least one commitment in each of these three categories:

### **Acknowledging poverty exists in Gateshead**

- Offer free or reduced rate services/ products to those in poverty
- Pay all staff members the Real Living Wage
- Provide information and support to clients/ customers about what's on offer to help people in poverty in Gateshead.
- And/ or a specific offer tailored to your business/ organisation...?

### **Engaging with people with lived experience of poverty in your decision making**

- People with lived experience are represented on your board or on a decision-making body.
- You conduct meaningful consultation with people with lived experience of poverty to actively engage to learn, understand and change.
- Engage with, or actively support, research on how poverty is affecting people in Gateshead.
- And/ or a specific offer tailored to your business/ organisation...?

### **Countering stigma and offering dignity and power**

- Offer safe spaces for people to talk about their situation without stigma.
- Awareness training is in place for front-line staff on how to support those experiencing poverty. This training involves people with lived experience.
- Support community groups/ charities that are providing help for those in poverty.
- And/ or a specific offer tailored to your business/ organisation...?

If you can commit to already completing one action in each category, or can confirm you are going to take an action, we'd like to invite you to sign our Charter and appear as a public signatory.

You will be invited to our business breakfasts to speak with other organisations on the Charter and Community Commissioners who will help you along the way and together we will... **Tackle poverty in Gateshead, together.**