



Information Session:

BD Collective Membership Offer

Community Feedback

9 December 2025

What's happening?

- BD Collective a **membership-led** Community Benefit Society (CBS)
- Development with CBS Working Group community leaders since June 2025
- BD Collective will operate like a co-operative, but for **wider community benefit** through its VCFSE member orgs
- Barking & Dagenham's VCFSE to be **better connected, better resourced, and better able to drive change** for residents.
- We published a draft version of our membership offer to get feedback from the Collective community before we finalise and launch in Q1 2026



Working Group members



What's in the membership pack?

1. Re-introducing BD Collective
2. Membership benefits
3. Membership criteria
4. Networks
5. Representation
6. BD Collective engagement principles
7. How to give your feedback & pre-register

Membership Benefits

COLLABORATE

Support our Networks

If you're leading or part of a local collaboration, get training, admin support from the Secretariat AND funding to cover some costs.

Make Things Happen Together

Together we can create game-changing collaborations & partnerships across the borough's VCFSE sector.

Meaningful Representation

You could represent VCFSE interests by taking up positions on strategic boards and committees (subject to criteria on page 8).

CONNECT

A Louder Sector Voice

Add your voice to an influential Collective that speaks up for the VCFSE sector in Barking & Dagenham.

Annual Get Together

A members-only event to celebrate progress, share learning, reconnect with each other, and hear from thought leaders.

Real Networking

Networking & gatherings with people doing work like yours. Share learnings, swap ideas, frustrations and solutions.

INFORM

Be the First to Know

Get the news that actually matters – local funding, partnerships, and opportunities to get involved – straight to your inbox.

Funding Alerts

Get early notice for grants, tenders and funding opportunities shared by commissioners, funders and investors.

Learning Opportunities

Free and low-cost training to develop your organisation & your professional skills, eg facilitation, public speaking, marketing, etc

Membership Criteria

Eligibility

- Registered voluntary, community, faith-based and social enterprise (VCFSE) - a.k.a. social sector organisations
- Unincorporated community groups
- Based in Barking & Dagenham

Steps to sign up:

- Complete a registration form
- Nominate: Main contact who holds the voting right, and a secondary contact
- Pay an annual fee - *Tell us what you think is a good fee structure and rate in feedback form!*

Membership fee and share:

- Membership fee inclusive of the nominal share value of £1
- Each member organisation gets one vote at general meetings
- Membership fee will help pay for shared services and resources and running costs associated with events, meetings and other members-only activities.

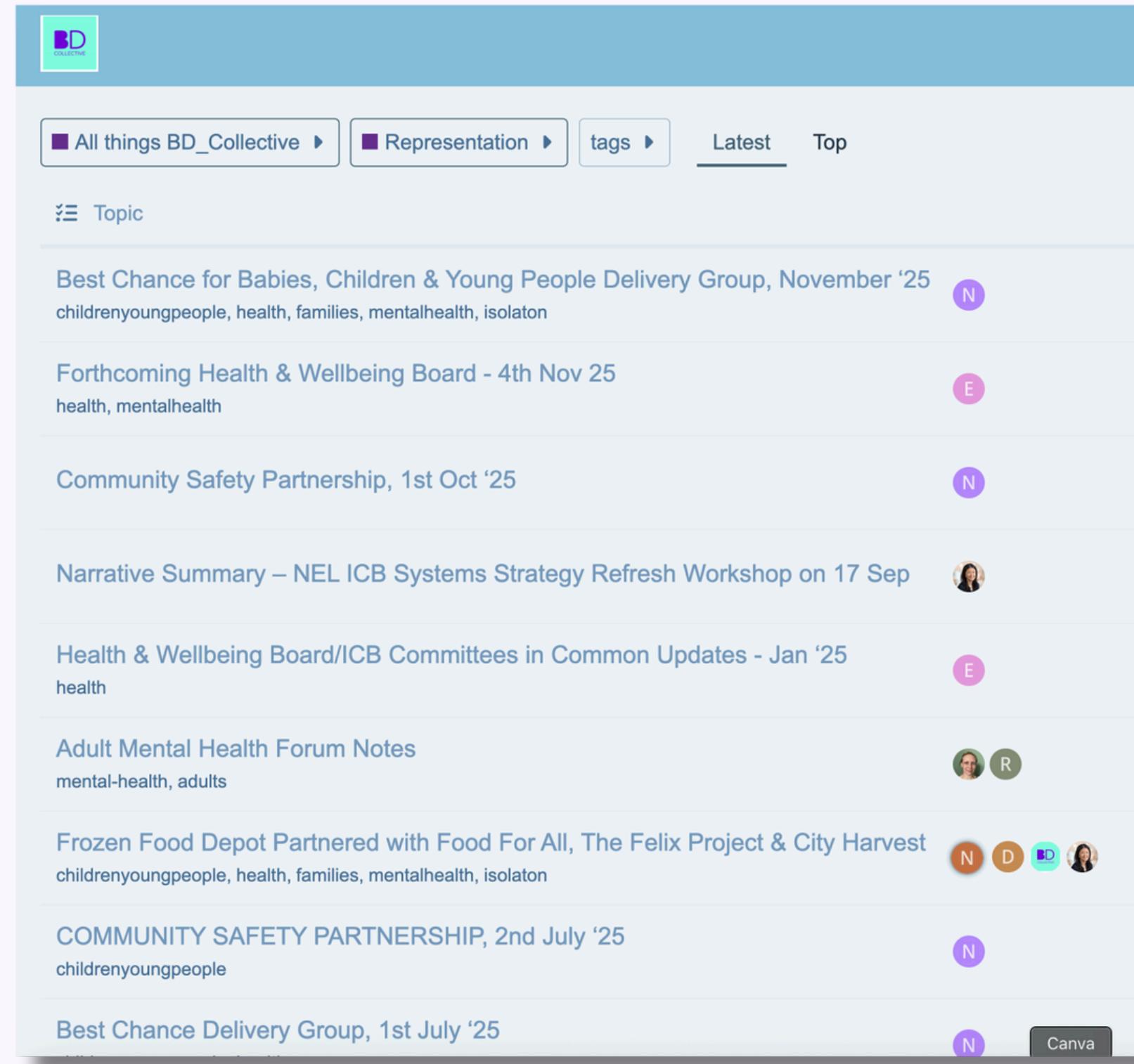
Networks

1. **Children & young people** e.g. young families support, youth initiatives
2. **Anti-poverty** e.g. financial literacy, fuel and food poverty, employability, housing
3. **Migrants support** e.g. supporting migrants, asylum seekers
4. **Sports** Supporting an uptake in sports participation for all community age groups
5. **Faith Response** For faith groups looking to respond to needs within the borough, working together to support our communities and residents regardless of their own faith or none.
6. **Women** Empowering women through resources & services tailored to female-centric issues.

Note:

- Anti-poverty: pivoted from Food Network
- We have commitment from existing network leads to continue driving these networks
- BD Collective will create a WhatsApp Community for all members to opt-in to one or more relevant networks

Representation



Supporting social sector voice to represent BD Collective

- Individual representatives will need to meet each strategic board/committee role-specific eligibility criteria
- represent the BD Collective's best interest and feedback to the membership.
- Selection process
- Remuneration at £35 per hour

Where representation is carried out for a commissioned role, or specific to a project design or delivery, we recommend that this is paid for from the commissioned project budget to support time spent in project development.

Engagement Principles

How would it look like to participate as a member organisation of BD Collective?

Welcomed and respected

Welcome diversity, experience, engagement & constructively identifying areas of improvement for growth

Different points of view

Varying perspectives help us be productive; instances where difference on POV are challenging, members can request support from board to facilitate resolutions

Clarity on roles during meetings

Member org representatives may have other roles that may present conflicts of interest - clarity on which “hat” a person is wearing should be standard practice to avoid confusion

Stewardship of the CBS

BD Collective will be member-led, stewarded by board (formal governance) + board & staff for strategic & administrative support

Questions we already received

Q: *What happens when a member doesn't abide by our principles? Would be good to have a clear "out" as well as "in" process.*

Termination of Membership

14. A Member shall immediately cease to be a Member of the Society if they:
 - (a) Are no longer eligible for membership.
 - (b) Fail to pay the annual subscription (if any) within three months of it falling due.
 - (c) Fail to hold the minimum shareholding.
 - (d) Resign in Writing to the Secretary.
 - (e) Transfer their share to the nominee of another unincorporated body (if they themselves are a nominee of an unincorporated body).
 - (f) Fail, in the reasonable opinion of the Board, to participate in the Society for a minimum period of 12 months and the Board resolves that they should cease to be a Member.
 - (g) Are expelled from membership in accordance with these Rules.
 - (h) Die, are wound up or go into liquidation.

Expulsion from Membership

15. A Member may only be expelled by a resolution of the Board at a Board Meeting after the Member has been provided with at least one month's notice in Writing of the Board Meeting setting out the grounds for expulsion. The notice shall include an invitation to the Member to attend the meeting providing them with an opportunity to make representations to the meeting or, at the option of the Member, an individual who is there to represent them (who need not be a Member of the Society) to make representations on their behalf.
16. At the Board Meeting called to consider the expulsion, the Board shall consider the evidence presented. If the Member fails to attend the meeting, it may proceed in the Member's absence.

Questions we already received

Q: I understand that you have not included arts and culture directly as a theme as there are other networks for this - but I am interested to know where the intersection with those charities and CICs operate?

Q: How do we ensure we have representation from smaller groups and organisations?

Suggestions received so far

- **A network or sub-group on disability & inclusion**
- **Mentoring opportunities / directory at an affordable fee**
- **Clarity on consortia opportunities**

What are we asking for?

We launched the feedback on 24 November 2025, which will run until Sunday, 11 January 2026.

What would we like you to help with?

- Read the membership pack (20 mins)
- Fill feedback form (8-10 mins)
- Respondents to our feedback form might win a draw prize! 😊
- Add your details to our pre-registration form and be the first to receive an update when we officially launch our membership



We hope to receive your feedback soon!
All information available here [**bit.ly/BDCBS**](https://bit.ly/BDCBS)

