



Place Alliance, A note on Governance

Background

Place Alliance was established at BIG MEET 2 in October 2014. Since then a number of principles have emerged regarding the nature of the alliance. These are:

- The creation of an alliance with no barriers (including financial) to entry
- A desire to create a movement rather than an organisation
- The establishment of a Core Supporters Group (with a Chair) as the guiding forum for Place Alliance
- The hosting of Place Alliance at UCL with a small management group to facilitate day to day Place Alliance activities
- A range of working groups (each with Chairs) set up to harness energy and interest around particular themes / topics
- Creation of a logo / visual identity and website to represent the work of the Place Alliance
- An agreed set of principles around place quality and the purpose of the alliance set out in two documents: *Place Matters* and *Our Purpose*.

Clarifying our governance

At the Core Support Group meeting on the 17th July 2013 the following additional principles were agreed in order to clarify the governance arrangements of the Place Alliance and maintain the idea of a big tent within which different ways of working and engaging are facilitated. These are:

- At all times Place Alliance is represented as a movement for place quality, with supporters, and not as an organisation.
- The primary role of Place Alliance remains the facilitation of sharing, collaboration and cross-sector understanding around place quality.
- When asked to engage with outside organisations, representatives and supporters of Place Alliance should clarify that Place Alliance is a collaborative alliance and does not necessarily reflect a single view beyond those expressed in its founding principles as expressed in *Place Matters*.
- The expertise lays, at all times, with the supporters, and not with Place Alliance and a key role of the alliance is to signpost parties to that expertise.
- Working groups are independent groupings of Place Alliance supporters in different combinations that can feed into a growing movement of voices, resources, activity and influence.
- The Core Support Group may facilitate new working groups coming together but should not interfere in the day to day work of groups nor endorse, or in any way pass judgement, on the quality of the work produced.

- Outputs from any working group can be disseminated by the Place Alliance (and badged as *In support of the Place Alliance*), but it should be clearly stated which organisations / individuals have been responsible for the output and that the output does not necessarily reflect the views of Place Alliance supporters as a whole.
- Conferences, seminars and other engagement / collaboration opportunities can use the logo *In support of the Place Alliance* as long as they fall within the scope of concerns articulated in *Place Matters*.
- Working groups should report back to the Core Support Group on their activities at least twice a year and in exceptional circumstances the Core Support Group has the authority to disband working groups