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Redbridge Faith Forum

warmly invites you to its

Annual General Meeting & Appointment of the Trustees followed by an Open Forum on "Fighting Poverty in Ilford"



DATE: Wednesday 9th July 2025 TIME: 5.50pm Registration 6.00pm - 8pm AGM & Open Forum VENUE: Methodist Church, 58A Ilford Lane, Ilford IG1 2JZ

We live in a wonderful London Borough with lots of parks and green spaces, good transport links, an excellent education service, and a cohesive multi-cultural community. But all is not what it seems on the surface! In Redbridge, a significant portion of residents, including one in four adults and one in three children, live in poverty. The borough faces challenges with income deprivation and pay inequality; a substantial number of residents earn below the Living Wage, according to Redbridge Council. Redbridge also experiences higher rates of homelessness and households in temporary accommodation compared to the London average. Cuts to local Government by Central Government, the worsening of the economic situation resulting in job losses, the increased cost of living, and cuts to benefits, are all impacting on the daily lives of residents.

How can we respond to this crisis? What actions can we take to help those in need and make a positive change? What is already in place? Can we join together as a community to give assistance and provide much needed support? How are faith and other groups responding to poverty?

We can't prevent what is happening nationally, but we can ensure that by consulting and working together we can find ways of improving the lives of the Redbridge residents who need it.

Please join us at our AGM and then at this listening and consulting Network Open Meeting on poverty in Redbridge and take part in this important discussion.

Light Refreshments will be available.

Please email Saira at <u>faith.forum@redbridge.gov.uk</u> to book your free place or her on 0208 708 2445. Advance registration is appreciated to help with arrangements but is not essential