

What is the Oldham Poverty Truth Commission?

The Oldham Poverty Truth Commission will draw on experiences of people who have been in poverty alongside those with power in Council services, businesses, and charities to make deep changes to the causes of poverty in Oldham.

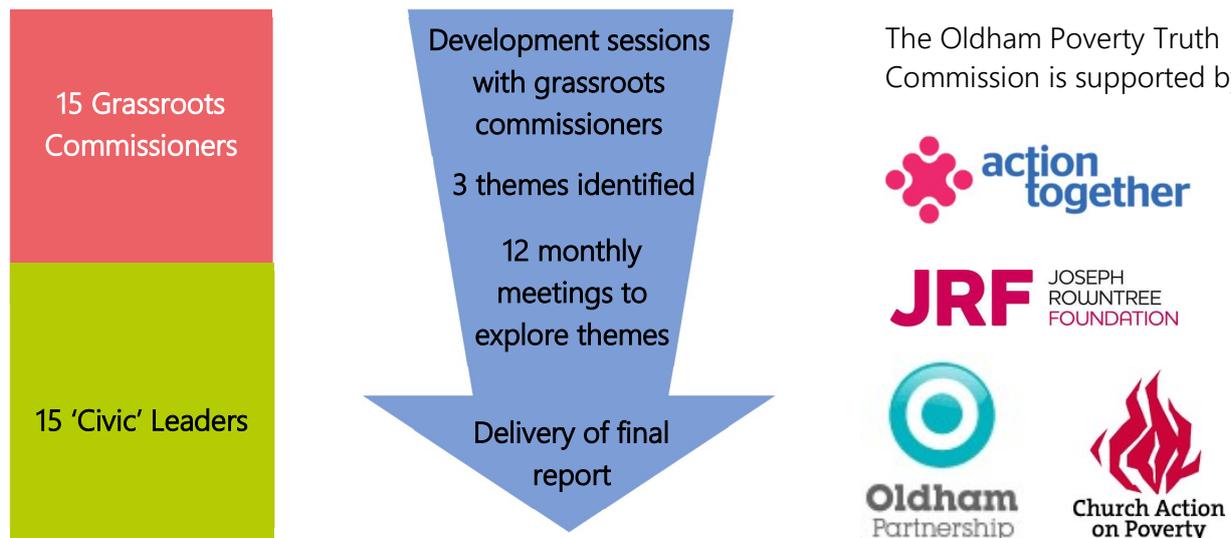
For over ten years Poverty Truth **Commissions** have now been involving people who **have** experienced poverty in identifying possible solutions, including Commission's in Salford and Leeds which continue to impact their local areas' approach to poverty.

nothing about us
without us
is for us

The Oldham Poverty Truth Commission aims to:

- Build relationships and trust between local people and 'civic' leaders that increase understanding of poverty
- Prompt changes in policy and practice within organisations
- Provide a positive example of involving lived experience that Oldham can reference
- Develop new skills for all participants which can be used elsewhere

How does it work?



We are now seeking looking to recruit **Grassroots Commissioners who want to use their voice** to have the experience of living in poverty heard by people with power. If that might be you, read on to find out what **is** involved and how you can be a part of it.

There is support available to help you participate and get the most from the Commission, and we would be delighted to speak further with you **about** directly about what it would be like. To find out more and tell us why you **would** be interested, you can make contact with us:

Call 0161 339 2345 (ask to speak to Nayan or Robbie)

Contact through a **support worker** who shared the opportunity

Email

robbie.cowbury@actiontogether.org.uk

Join our [Lunchtime Drop-in](#) online on **Mon 23rd Nov between 12 and 1pm**

What happens next?

- Oct-Dec 2020** Recruitment of Facilitator and Commissioner's
- Jan-March 2021** 12 development sessions with 15 Lived Experience Commissioner's
- Spring 2021** Public launch for broader community and system engagement
- 12 monthly Commission meetings start
- Themes determined and Commissioners allocated to sub-groups with Lived Experience and Civic co-chairs
- Spring 2022** Delivery of final report and wider community engagement

How can I help?

We believe everyone's experiences are assets as valuable as a qualification or decades working in an area. Whether you grew up in poverty, experienced long periods of unemployment, struggled with your mental health, have been homeless or countless other experiences, we **would** like to draw on your assets to help prevent others from going through similar in the future.

If you would like to add your voice to a team of people with similar experiences – in a place where it will be heard by those in positions to address the things you went through - then you might be the ideal 'Grassroots Commissioner'. In the role, you **will** work alongside those with power to identify responses that might work in Oldham. We **are** not looking for quick fixes, but we need you to help us create the long-term solutions.

Your commitment	What you will get in return
12 half days for the first 3 months, then ½ day per month of your time over the next 12 months	Expenses to cover travel, childcare and other costs to engaging with the Commission
Actively listen to others experience of poverty, as well as the efforts to address poverty by those with power	Support from a facilitator to help link you feel confident participating in the Commission
Draw on your lived experience to identify changes that might help others living in poverty	Opportunity to create relationships with senior leaders in Oldham public life while gaining evidence of a range of skills which could help with future work and career