



## **Ethical Use Policy**

King's House is an initiative of King's Cross Church (KXC), opened in early 2022, to create a home in the heart of King's Cross, from which to play our part in the social, spiritual and physical transformation of the local area. Our value and mission is shaped by our faith, which can be read further at [www.kingshouse.org.uk](http://www.kingshouse.org.uk).

Further to this, our Landlord is the London Diocesan Fund (Charity Number 241083), and our lease requires that the use of the building is in line with the objectives of the Bishop's Mission Order.

As a result of this, and as an active place of Christian worship, we have developed an Ethical Use policy for both internal and external use of the building. This sets out our hopes for the creative use of the building, along with some exclusions of events that we are sadly unable to accommodate as an active place of worship.

### **Vision and Values**

Our vision is for King's House to be home to be:

#### ***A house of mercy and justice:***

We have built partnerships with local projects and charities to help tackle some of the drivers of poverty that exist in King's Cross.

#### ***A house of innovation and renewal:***

A space that cultivates innovation, providing a genuinely affordable space for our local business community, creatives, charities, and purpose-driven organisations in King's Cross and beyond, whilst also knowing our environmental footprint.

#### ***A house of hospitality and healing:***

An accessible space for people from all walks of life to come together, giving priority to those in society who are often overlooked, marginalised and neglected.

### ***A house of prayer and presence:***

A space that contributes to the spiritual transformation of our local area, rooted in practices of prayer, fostering an environment where the diversity of King's Cross can be embraced and celebrated in the spirit of unity.

### **Activities we seek to support**

King's House is a space that cultivates innovation, providing a genuinely affordable space to hire for our local business community, creatives, charities, and purpose-driven organisations in King's Cross and beyond, whilst also knowing our environmental footprint. Every hire invests straight back into the community services hosted in the building, practically fuelling the ongoing story of new life in King's Cross.

As an ambitious organisation with charitable objectives, we are particularly keen to host events that are:

- Local. We love King's Cross and love hosting charities, companies and residents who are local to King's Cross and excited to see the transformation of the area.
- Creative. We have set up the venue with amazing PA, lighting and live stream potential, and are excited to host events that are creative; exploring new ideas and finding fresh solutions.
- Partnerships. So much of our approach is founded on long-term partnerships with local organisations doing amazing things. We love for the events to be the catalyst for wider, longer and deeper partnership working.
- Diversity. We often say that King's Cross is a place where worlds collide; residential areas, global corporations, people passing through. And are excited to host events that bring together people from different backgrounds and all walks of life.
- Restoration. Our ultimate goal is to see the physical, social and spiritual transformation of the local area and to work towards that goal; be that in how we procure services, how we've worked to create King's House, and the types of organisations we are excited to partner with.
- Sustainability. We want to reduce the impact of our venue, and promote activities that are working towards a sustainable future. In

particular we encourage the all hirers to implement the guidance of Julie's Bicycle, and in particular the Production and Exhibitions paper<sup>1</sup>.

Due to the restrictions within our lease, there are certain events or organisations that we are sadly unable to host. Many of these are guided by the definition and discussion of the relevant ethical issues by the Church of England's Ethical Investment Advisory Group (EIAG) and/or the National Investing Bodies - as well as further exclusions as a place of Christian worship.

### **Religious Use:**

King's House is an active place of Christian worship. Therefore:

1. No acts of worship to be performed, except if it's a Christian group with whom KXC have an existing and ongoing relationship. And/or where the hirer's organisation is a member of the Evangelical Alliance, Churches Together or the Church of England.
2. Events that promote, proclaim or practice a faith other than our own Christian faith are prohibited in the building. This excludes social functions and events that promote social cohesion.

### **Other restricted activities:**

The exclusions are:

1. The hirer is known to be engaged in or promoting illegal activity
2. The hirer promotes views which are anathema to the teachings of the Church of England, as may be affirmed by its Synodical or Episcopal statement from time to time, such as groups which promote racial prejudice.
3. The hirer is known to be involved in the production or distribution of pornography or achieves its material revenue from the production or distribution of pornography.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://juliesbicycle.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Productions\\_and\\_exhibitions\\_guide\\_2015.pdf](https://juliesbicycle.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Productions_and_exhibitions_guide_2015.pdf)

4. The hirer produces indiscriminate weapons such as nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, biological weapons or anti-personnel mines.
5. The hirer derives more than 10% of its revenues from conventional weaponry, tobacco, E-cigarettes, recreational cannabis, gambling, non-military firearms, thermal coal mining, production of oil from oil sands or high-interest loans, or recreational drugs.
6. The hirer is a company in which the Church of England has decided on ethical grounds not to invest, including with regard to alcohol production or retail.
7. The hirer derives more than 25% of its revenues from alcohol.
8. The hirer is indiscriminate and/or irresponsible in seeking sponsorship from any of the above categories. In order to ensure that this is not the case, the Corporation may ask the hirer to disclose to them the criteria upon which they seek or refuse sponsorship.
9. Campaigning groups and Political Parties where they also promote illegal or immoral activity as defined by the Church of England through its Synodical or episcopal statements from time to time.
10. Cultural events that glorify or promote illegal or immoral behaviors as defined by the Church of England unless it is an educational event where such material will be critiqued and debate will occur.
11. Events involving sex acts and/or nudity
12. Other events that may impact the reputational risk to KXC or the Church of England.

Please also note that we don't currently hold a wedding license.

We recognise that each booking at King's House will be uniquely different from one another, and that this policy will not capture all types of events that will be hosted in the space. We have a steering group made up of representatives of different backgrounds to discuss any events that we are unsure about hosting. This may lead to a small delay in accepting certain enquiries.

## **Alcohol and Drugs policy**

King's House does not have a premises license, and so alcohol cannot be sold on site without first obtaining a Temporary Events Notice for the event. Alcohol can be served at events without charge, however this needs to be handled responsibly and in accordance with the guidelines below:

- Alcohol should be served responsibly, and we may decline an event if it is deemed that alcohol consumption is a primary objective of the event.
- King's House policies should be adhered to throughout a hire, including Health & Safety, Fire Safety and security procedures. Additional staffing may be required at events where alcohol is served in order to ensure these processes are appropriately adhered to.
- Alcohol should not be served to individuals under the age of 18.
- Hirers are responsible for the culture of consumption, and oversight of serving at an event. This should include refusing service to individuals who are clearly heavily under the influence of alcohol.
- Smoking is prohibited in indoor areas of the site, and illegal drugs are prohibited from being brought on to site.
- Further details are in the Hirer Information Pack

This policy was agreed by Management on 1st September 2022.