



Getting the most from participating in an ALN group

ALN Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and Communities of Practice (CoPs) look to bring together like-minded colleagues working on similar challenges to provide expert advice and peer support, support ALN's strategic objectives, and enable professional development. They also produce outputs to support the wider community.

There are a range of things you as a participant can do to make the most of your involvement in these groups and to help these groups have the best possible impact. However, this does require a time commitment in between meetings. Before agreeing to participate in a group, please consider whether you can commit to the expectations of group chairs (listed below) and where appropriate discuss these commitments with your managers, to ensure that you have the support to dedicate working time to these groups.

- To actively participate in reporting and sharing activity, best practice, and knowledge with other group members.
- To identify and suggest pieces of work that group members can collectively work on to help ALN and our member libraries move the profession forward.
- To actively participate in any collaborative work that is instigated by the Board or Steering Group, group chairs, or group members.
- To support and participate in the staff development programme that ALN offers. Each group is expected to run one staff development session each year, and ideas for themes are always welcomed, as well as colleagues to run, host, and deliver these sessions.
- To provide peer support to other group members outside of meetings in implementing best practice in their own institutions.
- To share updates and activity with colleagues in group members' own institutions, encouraging engagement with group activities.