

25th April 2013

REPORT OF WASHINGTON AREA COMMUNITY VOLUNTARY SECTOR NETWORK

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report provides an update with regard to the Washington Area Community and Voluntary Sector Network

2. Background

- 2.1 To develop the capacity and influence of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) across the City, Area Networks have been established and delegates represent each Area Network at Area Committee taking forward issues on behalf of the whole VCS in the area and reporting back, providing a two-way flow of communication.
- 2.2 Washington Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.

3. Washington Area Community and Voluntary Sector Network (ACVSN) Progress Report

The Washington ACVSN has met twice since the last Area Committee in January.

- Through the People Board a number of recommendations have been made to ensure the VCS Network can continue to access opportunities to influence, support delivery and raise awareness of service delivery to meet key priorities for the area. Recommendations include developing a joint understanding of shared priorities and agreeing how to deliver those shared priorities for the benefit and need of local residents and community.
- The Network is keen to discuss the gaps across the area and how joint working can be utilised to address those gaps.
- VCS Network will continue to work on developing and supporting the VCS re collaboration, communications, intelligence and mapping.
- VCS Reps are to give both oral and written updates to the Area Committee and the Boards of Network developments, as requested.
- VCAS now offer the Peoples' Voice Group – peer support and collaboration for smaller VCS organisations, offering advice on bids and the funding process.
- The Washington Trust is currently working on a development plan for forthcoming projects, alongside ideas contributed by the network

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested
- To note the contents of the report and consider the opportunities and issues raised by the Washington ACVSN

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