

18th June 2014

REPORT OF NORTH AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report provides an update with regard to the North Area Voluntary and Community 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, reporting on area priority delivery by the VCS, and reporting back, providing a two-way flow of communication.
- 2.2 North Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.

3. North Voluntary and Community Sector Network (VCSN) Progress Report

- 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, as requested.
- The North VCSN has met twice since the last Area Committee in April 2014.
- The Network has received presentations and information which have included:
 - The opportunity to influence the Place and People Board Priority setting discussions with feedback from the VCS Network on Job Prospects and Activities for Young People being fed into the boards
 - Feedback on the delivery and performance of the commissioned youth work contracts in the North
 - Sunderland City Council Communications Team presented the All Together Sunderland campaign giving the opportunity to work together and promote the services and activities delivered by the VCS in the North.
 - The VCS Representatives have supported VCS organisations with specific challenges and queries in relation to Safeguarding.

4. Recommendations

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

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