

18 SEPTEMBER 2013

REPORT OF COALFIELD AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report provides an update with regard to the Coalfield 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 Coalfield Area Network delegates will present a report to each Area Committee meeting informing Members of activity, progress, issues and concerns of the sector.

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

The Coalfield VCSN has met twice since the last Area Committee in June 2013.

- VCS Area Networks have been consulted on the review of the library service to provide opportunities to inform new proposals for potential locations for book collections, reservations and outreach programmes and future use of community assets.
- The Network has been invited to contribute to discussions with regards to the City Council's VCS Relationship Transition Project. The project will consider how best the council can work with the sector to achieve joint objectives and priorities going forward.
- The Network has discussed the opportunity to become involved in the Area Committee priority of support for older and vulnerable people. The Network support the development and delivery of dementia awareness training and would welcome the chance to take part
- The Network has been involved in the Love Where You Live campaign and a number of organisations have developed their own projects. This will continue throughout the coming year in partnership with the Area Response Manager's programme of LWYL activity
- The Network is keen to develop a series of local activities and projects to commemorate World War 1 100 years in 2014. A partnership approach is being developed and Heritage Lottery Funds have been applied for. The Network requests the support and involvement of Area Committee
- The Network is supportive of the work of the People Board to provide additional initiatives to deliver healthy lifestyles for young people

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested
- To note the contents of the report and consider the views of the Network in the influence and delivery of Area Priorities

Contact: Lee Wardle, Area Network Representative
Sam Gallilée, Area Network Representative.
Ann Owen, Area Network Representative