

3rd March 2016

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 Network will continue to work on developing and supporting the VCS re collaboration, communications, intelligence and mapping.
- The Network has met twice since the last Area Committee
- The Network has agreed to focus on promoting the roles of the Area Network representatives, for larger organisations to support and mentor the smaller ones, and to promote the different routes and mechanisms that local groups can access for support or information via the Area Network. It is proposed that the Network supports its membership to further develop a partnership approach to aid funding opportunities and bids and encourage involvement of some of the smaller groups.
- The Network aims to survey all contacts to find out what our organisations offer, what are the primary aims and objectives, and where support is needed and to also determine what kind of support is required particularly for the smaller more informal groups. It was noted that a lot of information with regards to activities is already included in the wellbeing.info directory and website.
- It is intended this work will provide a menu of support for the local VCS and promote and expand the role of 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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