# WASHINGTON VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCS) NETWORK

## Who are we...

### Kasia Kurowska

(Partnership Manager, Age UK Sunderland)

Kasie has expertise in project management, bid writing and campaigning with a particular interest in supporting local groups who offer support to older, more vulnerable people in Washington. Kasia is committed to working with and helping the local community and organisations in Washington to develop and thrive.

#### Jacqui Reeves

(Services Manager, Washington Mind)

Jacqui has worked in mental health services for over 30 years. The team at Washington Mind are committed to challenging the discrimination associated with mental health problems and to helping everyone who needs mental health care to get the right support, at the right time.

Jacqui is passionate about the vital role the voluntary sector plays in helping those most in need and believes strongly that we, along with our partners and indeed the whole community, are stronger together.

## HOW TO CONTACT US...

Kasia - T: 0191 5148346 Jacqui - T: 0191 4178043 John - T: 0191 2193884



The three area reps for the Washington Area are (left to right) Kasia, John and Jacqui.

#### John Rostron – (Advisor to WMC Trust)

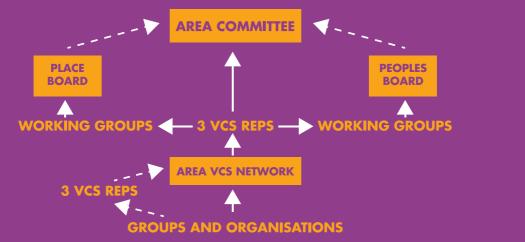
John has worked for the Council for 25 years, the last 7 years were spent working in community development and the Washington Area. John now supports the Trustees at the Millennium Centre and volunteers with both Washington Trust and Biddick Academy. John believes in ensuring the Voluntary and Community Sector and the people of Washington have a voice; and that it is heard. John feels services and activities should meet the needs of residents and be the best they can be, and that partnership working is the only way to ensure that Washington receives the services it needs, "We already have some good relationships established amongst the groups in Washington and its now about how we develop them to make sure the sector remains strong and meets the needs of the local communities as there will continue to be tough times ahead, especially for the most vulnerable and needy."

# **ABOUT THE NETWORK...**

The Washington Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Network is a fantastic resource for any local voluntary or community group in Washington. The Network offers you and your group the opportunity to:

- Develop your work and organisation or group.
- Find out about the latest funding opportunities and local community developments from the Council and other partners.
- partnership opportunities and support for your work.
- Promote the work you are doing to the Council and other organisations in the area.
- Raise issues and the challenges you face in the local community and be part of finding solutions.
- Work with other local groups to build

### Where does the Network fit in the local structure...



### How can you get involved...

## There are lots of ways to get involved in the Network:

 You can attend one of the regular local meetings to network and promote your work

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- Receive email bulletins keeping you up to date on the latest opportunities and developments
- Speak to one of the 3 local Washington VCS Reps for support and guidance
- E: partnershipmanager@ageuksunderland.org.uk
- E: jacqui@washingtonmind.org.uk