

6th March 2017

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 December 2016.
- The Network has provided information of services/activities delivered in the North, partnership opportunities, needs and gaps in order to inform the work of the People Board in developing the Raising Aspirations and Positive Outcomes Project.
- The Network has received presentations and information which have included:
 - Details of Activities and Events in the North
 - Details of NEPO Funding Opportunities
 - Details of Grantfinder Funding Opportunities
 - Consultation on Sunderland City Council Budget
 - Presentation by Age UK on the Social Focus Project
 - Presentation by Sunderland Live on Community Engagement and Support
 - Presentation on CLLD and opportunity to be involved
 - Presentation by the NHS & CCG on South Tyneside and Sunderland Hospitals – Sustainable Transformation Plan and provided with the opportunity to host local community focus groups
 - Presentation on the Move to Improve Project
 - Presentation by the project NE Youth
 - Presentation on the Putting Southwick on the Map Project
 - Provided with the opportunity to be involved in the Southwick Illuminations Project

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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