

8th March 2017

REPORT OF WEST AREA VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR NETWORK

1. Purpose of the Report

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

3. West Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network (AVCSN) Progress Report

- 3.1 The West AVCSN has met twice since the last Area Committee in December 2016. The West VCSN continues to deliver activities and services which support the Area Committee priorities.
- 3.2 The VCS network met in January and discussed the West Enterprise project and how to refer individuals into the project. The network also had the opportunity to understand the services offered by Access to Counselling, which is based in the West.
- 3.3 During the March meeting the network discussed the West Area Event and opportunities to participate within the theme of Science, Engineering and the Environment.
- 3.4 The VCS discussed the projects recently approved for Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing. Details were provided to groups to ensure the whole network could signpost where required. The network were also reminded of the opportunity and support available to further identify Mental Health training requirements, to support staff and volunteers within their organisations.
- 3.5 The VCS are working together to plan how they can help and support each other through sharing of skills, knowledge and resources.
- 3.6 The network continues to receive GRANTfinder opportunities and so far over £70k has been secured in the West.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are requested
- To note the contents of the report

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