

25th June 2014

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

The West AVCSN has met twice since the last Area Committee in April 2014.

- The West VCSN continue to deliver activities and services which support the Area Committee priorities of Streetscene and Environmental improvements, Activities for Young People, Health and Wellbeing, Job Prospects and Activities for older persons to reduce social isolation.
- As part of the transition project the VCSN the Terms of Reference for the networks were reviewed and revised as at Annex ??
- The Area VCS representatives continue to be:
Edna Rochester – Tansy Centre
Bill Leach – Pennywell CA
Anita Heskett Saddington – Fiscus
- The network were consulted on the review of the local priorities for the West area via the network meeting and informed the potential activity that will take place to support the achievement of the key priorities.
- The network received information on the All Together Sunderland Brand and how the network can work with partners within the brand to publicise the work they do and events delivered in the area. They were also updated on how they can be supported through the brand with marketing and promotion.
- Members of the network took part in an extremely successful community event at Silksworth as part of an Open Day at Beckwith Mews showcasing the community resources available and commemorating World War 1. This event also allowed local ward councillors to work closely with the community informing residents of the work of Area Committee and seeking feedback and input as Community Leaders.
- The network were informed of the recent round of procurement for Family and Adult Community Learning opportunities and encouraged to bid for the opportunities.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested
- To note the contents of the report and consider the opportunities and issues raised by the West AVCSN.

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