

REPORT OF NORTH AREA VOLUNTARY & 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 three times since the last Area Committee in June 2018.
- The July meeting selected carried out a nomination and selection process for a new VCS Network representative to attend Area Committee on behalf of the Network and Richy Duggan of Sunderland Community Action Group was successful in gaining the nomination.
- The Network has received presentations and information in 2018/19 which have included:
 - Details of Activities and Events in the North
 - Details of NEPO Funding Opportunities
 - Details of Grantfinder Funding Opportunities
 - Presentation by Sunderland College – Student Placements within VCS organisations Programme
 - Social Isolation and Loneliness Research Feedback from Public Health
 - Citizens Advice Bureau Presentation
 - Healthwatch Presentation on Care Homes
 - Seascapes Tyne to Tees Shores and Seas presentation
 - Springboard Futures presentation

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

Contact: Ruth Oxley, Area Network Representative.
Email: ruth@snyp.co.uk - Tel No: 0191 549 1179
Graham Wharton, Area Network Representative
Email: graham.wharton@salvationarmy.org.uk - Tel No: 0191 561 8270
Richy Duggan, Area network Representative
Email: sunderlandcommunityactiongroup@hotmail.com – Tel No: 0191 556 1047