

# OFFER Sheffield First e-bulletin

## Final Edition



Keeping you up to date with news and issues from the Sheffield First Partnership, with an emphasis on how the VCF [Voluntary, Community & Faith] sector reps have contributed to, and influenced the discussion.

March 2010 edition

Dear Colleagues - regrettably, this is the last edition of the OFFER Sheffield First e-bulletin.

Due to recent funding decisions, the resources to fund OFFER's work to support VCF sector voice and influence in Sheffield are no longer available. As a result of VCF sector reps on Sheffield First Partnership pointing out the void this will create, Lee Adams, the Deputy Chief Executive of SCC has been in discussion with the VCF reps on the Board to look at possible options in light of far fewer resources. The detail of what these new arrangements will look like is yet to be finalised, but what is clear from Sheffield City Council is that they will not fund OFFER to provide this work.

In the interim if you want to continue to find out what VCF reps on the Sheffield First Partnership Board have contributed to, and influenced for, you can contact the reps direct - see contact details below.

If you want to register your concern about how the sector has arrived at this position, please contact Lee Adams direct: [lee.adams@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:lee.adams@sheffield.gov.uk)

### Sheffield First Partnership Board: Met 10 March

#### Key points and what VCF sector reps influenced for:-

- The April 2010 Board meeting to include a discussion on the budget projections for the Police, NHS and City Council so together partners can understand the challenges ahead, the implications on the next City Strategy and help contribute towards the tough decision making needed.
- The Sheffield First Board members will make the time to have a separate session to look at the future of the whole Partnership in this time of public sector cuts. VCF sector members expressed their feelings that there is a gradual increase of control by the City Council and a withdrawing from partnership. This seemed to be accepted by all partners and so it was agreed there needs to be an open discussion about this and the implications for the future.
- The proposed headings for the new City Strategy places social capital amongst a number of different themes. It needs to have a specific home otherwise it is in danger of falling through the gaps and not being addressed anywhere.

#### VCF rep contact details:

**Mike Fitter [Sheffield Faiths Forum]**  
E: [mike@sheffieldfaithsforum.org.uk](mailto:mike@sheffieldfaithsforum.org.uk)

Debbie Mathews [Manor & Castle Development Trust]  
E: [debbiemathews@manorandcastle.org.uk](mailto:debbiemathews@manorandcastle.org.uk)

Claire Chapman [Sheffield Wildlife Trust]  
E: [c.chapman@wildsheffield.com](mailto:c.chapman@wildsheffield.com)

Nick Warren [VAS]  
E: [n.warren@vas.org.uk](mailto:n.warren@vas.org.uk)

**Date of next meeting: 14 April 2010**

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## SF Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership Board: Has not met in March

**VCF rep contact details:** [3 VCF places on this board filled from the pool of 6 individuals below, depending on their availability & the items on the meeting agenda].

The Revd. Canon Will Lamb [University of Sheffield Chaplaincy Centre]  
E: [w.lamb@shef.ac.uk](mailto:w.lamb@shef.ac.uk)

Sylvia Hamilton [Darnall Forum]  
E: [hamiltonjp@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:hamiltonjp@blueyonder.co.uk)

Mark Smith [Safe@Last]  
E: [m.smith@safeatlast.org.uk](mailto:m.smith@safeatlast.org.uk)

Karl Barton [Woodthorpe Development Trust]  
E: [karl@woodthorpedt.co.uk](mailto:karl@woodthorpedt.co.uk)

Katherine Williams [Sheffield Wildlife Trust]  
E: [k.williams@wildsheffield.com](mailto:k.williams@wildsheffield.com)

Ian Drayton [SOAR, Southey & Owlerton Area Regeneration]  
E: [ian@soaregn.org.uk](mailto:ian@soaregn.org.uk)

**Date of next meeting: 1 April 2010**

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## SF Health and Well-Being P'ship Board: Has not met in March

**Liaison Person:** Jasmine Warwick [VAS] T. 2536647 E. [j.warwick@vas.org.uk](mailto:j.warwick@vas.org.uk)

**Date of next meeting: 22 June 2010**

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## SF Environment Partnership: Met 10 March

**Key points and what VCF reps influenced for:-**

- VCF reps volunteered to be part of a task and finish group to write the next Environment Strategy.

- Reps raised an issue about the Board's forward agenda. There is to be a discussion about the Carbon Reduction Framework in May with a CAA auditor in attendance; yet we don't have the information about how we are progressing against our carbon reduction targets e.g. how the work to insulate lofts and cavity walls delivered as part of the 'Free Insulation Programme' is contributing towards meeting NI 186? Furthermore, Government has published a 'Home Energy Management Strategy' – how does this help Sheffield achieve its goals? On the forward strategy this is not scheduled to be talked about till November – is there any way to track progress in a more timely way? It was agreed the Board will be updated on progress against the CRF in May.
- A presentation about the 'Food Plan' acknowledged the contribution of vol. sector input into existing food partnership/networks e.g. through local food supply. VCF reps were appreciative of this acknowledgment.
- Big Spring Clean and Environment Weeks – VCF reps asked whether the programme included activities which linked with climate change and whether SIMP [Sheffield is My Planet] had been included in planning discussions? The view was that the successful focus on green space/wildlife would remain unchanged, so maybe links to climate would need to be more subtle, and that SIMP would be invited to the discussion.

#### VCF rep contact details:

**Matt Walker [Business Environment Centre]**

**E: [matt.walker@the-bec.co.uk](mailto:matt.walker@the-bec.co.uk)**

**Samiya Selim [Shebeen]**

**E: [samiya@shebeen.org.uk](mailto:samiya@shebeen.org.uk)**

**Jenny Patient [Sheffield Campaign against Climate Change]**

**E: [jenny.patient@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jenny.patient@blueyonder.co.uk)**

**Revd. Canon Dr Joanne Grenfell [Cathedral Church of St Peter and St Paul]**

**E: [Joanne.grenfell@sheffield-cathedral.org.uk](mailto:Joanne.grenfell@sheffield-cathedral.org.uk)**

**Date of next meeting: 12 May 2010**

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## SF Strong Economy Board: has not met in March

#### VCF rep contact details:

**Laura Moynahan [ZEST]**

**E: [laura.moynahan@zestcommunity.co.uk](mailto:laura.moynahan@zestcommunity.co.uk)**

**Andrew Coulthard [VC Train]**

**E: [andrewc.@vctrain.org](mailto:andrewc.@vctrain.org)**

**Date of next meeting: 12 April 2010**

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## SF Children & Young People 0-19+ Partnership Board: has not met in March

2 new VCF reps have recently been appointed to this Board – Zaiada Bibi and Jon Cowley, Yemeni Community Association.

Colin Blain has recently joined VAS as the Children & Young People's Planning and Partnership Officer. Part of Colin's role involves liaison support for the VCF reps on this Board

**Date of next meeting: 22 April 2010**

**Liaison Person:** Colin Blain E:[c.blain@vas.org.uk](mailto:c.blain@vas.org.uk)

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## Other news & information:

**OFFER Extraordinary General Meeting, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April** – with an emphasis on 'extraordinary.' As mentioned above, due to recent funding decisions, the resources to fund OFFER's work to support VCF sector voice and influence in Sheffield are no longer available and as such OFFER will be winding down. The event will provide an opportunity to hear about what will happen with various networks OFFER currently supports. Download the event flyer from:

[www.offer.org.uk/resources/documents/OFFER%20EGM%20flyer%2020%20Aril%202010.pdf](http://www.offer.org.uk/resources/documents/OFFER%20EGM%20flyer%2020%20Aril%202010.pdf)

A key item at the next **Sheffield Community Economic Network [SCEN]** will be how the network will be hosted beyond 31 March. News of this, along with future arrangements around other networks OFFER currently supports will be presented at the EGM [see above for how to book your place] & published in the final edition of Regeneration News and on the OFFER website [www.offer.org.uk](http://www.offer.org.uk) [which will be hosted, although not updated, until December 2010].

**The Adult Learning Forum** met on 9 March. The Learning & Skills Council/Skills Funding Agency have not yet released the funding allocation for Sheffield. Cllr Sangar, Cabinet Member for Children's Services & Adult Learning reassured forum members that he endorsed the need for fairness & transparency in allocating funding across the city via Community Assembly areas. An ESOL forum for Sheffield, operating under the Adult Learning Forum was agreed. For a full meeting report click visit: [www.offer.org.uk/content.php?c=98](http://www.offer.org.uk/content.php?c=98)

**OFFER's Community Assembly VCF sector feedback event 18 March** – over 80 VCF reps came along to feed in their views & experiences of working with their Community Assemblies, what was working well, and what not so well. Read what VCF reps said at: [www.offer.org.uk/resources/documents/Write%20up%20of%20post-it%20notes.pdf](http://www.offer.org.uk/resources/documents/Write%20up%20of%20post-it%20notes.pdf)

Partnership Board agendas, minutes and reports are available from: [www.sheffieldfirst.net](http://www.sheffieldfirst.net)

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OFFER exists to support VCF organisations and networks to work in partnership and strategically influence the creation of successful, inclusive communities in Sheffield.

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