



OFFER Sheffield First e-bulletin

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

December 2009 edition

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Sheffield First Partnership Board: Met 9 Dec '09

VCF sector reps influenced for:-

- Task & finish group to look at the activities that need to happen outside of school gates in the areas of Sheffield where everything that can be done in schools is in place, and its wider community issues that may be behind preventing children reaching their potential.
- The need for officers supporting the Sheffield First Environment Partnership to help the membership to use the expertise and resources of all partners to come up with solutions, and not to see the lack of the city Council having a specific pot of money meaning no planning can take place.
- For the following issues to be considered as potential for inclusion in the next city strategy (although very much dependant on the results of the public consultation happening now)
 - Making Sheffield a great place to grow old
 - Tackling the seemingly remorseless widening gap between the city's richest and poorest
 - Challenging inequality
 - Empowerment

In addition VCF sector members of the BME Network, facilitated group discussions around potential themes for the next City Strategy with the following top level suggestions emerging:

- Environment - the ways in which people want to use/protect/enhance their environment varies just as much according to their culture as other drivers like social class and wealth. Therefore in terms of environmental activities, one size most definitely does not fit all.
- Children & Young People - make the best use of sport and activities to bring different BME & White groups together
- Health - ensure there is access for all cultures
- Successful Neighbourhoods - people from whatever community shouldn't feel the need to move to a different part of Sheffield in order to access opportunity
- Strong Economy – equipping people from BME communities with the higher level business & management skills to enable them to rise up the management scale which will have a huge impact on reducing discrimination

Date of next meeting: 13 Jan 2010

Liaison Person: Dave Jackson (OFFER) T. 2536730 E. davej@offer.org.uk

SF Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership Board: Met 3 Dec '09

Key points and what VCF sector reps influenced:

- Sarah Banks, Partnership Board manager reported that instead of [as agreed at the last mtg.] the whole Board looking at the medium term financial strategy, meetings had been held between partners with the outcomes to be reported back to the Board at a future mtg. VCF sector reps, along with Government Office reps challenged this, and it was agreed that there would be a meeting of the whole board to discuss the matter in March.
- In response to an agenda item on anti-social behaviour, VCF reps raised the issue of continuing drift of issues of sustainability and the use of blunt measures for indicators around volunteering, cohesion and influence. Also that the 'passporting' of resources from the old 'Successful Neighbourhoods' Board had not been addressed. Evelyn Milne from SCC to take forward and report back at a future Board mtg.

Date of next meeting: 4 Feb 2010

This meeting will be an extended one to allow time to look at the City Strategy.

N.B. To help gather the views of Communities of interest around Safer and Sustainable Communities issues, representatives of networks of organisations of communities of interest are encouraged to attend Board pre-meetings to raise issues and contribute to the discussion. Please contact Dave Parsons, details below if you are interested in this opportunity.

Liaison Person: Dave Parsons (OFFER) T. 2536730 E. dave@offer.org.uk

SF Health and Well-Being Partnership Board:

Not scheduled to meet this month

Date of next meeting: 9 February 2010

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

SF Environment Partnership:

Not scheduled to meet this month

Date of next meeting: 27 January 2010

Liaison Person: Natalie Hunt [OFFER] T. 2536730 E. natalie@offer.org.uk

SF Strong Economy Board: Met 1 Dec '09

Key points and what VCF reps influenced:

- There was a City Centre Regeneration update – key targets include increased shopping and office space & increased added value for the city with major public sector projects and several private sector ones. VCF reps questioned whether original assumptions about new jobs and greater city income are still valid? Also about improved liveability for new city-centre neighbourhoods, and 'linked' inner-city neighbourhoods, and how our sector could be involved in making these links happen. The response was that developments would take longer, but targets still look achievable". Re. inner-city neighbourhood links- the need to broaden these in partnership with appropriate VCF sector bodies e.g. Burngreave New Deal was recognised.
- Marketing – there was a report from Creative Sheffield on their marketing activities. This focused on having attracted people from outside the City to high profile events such as the 'Grin Up North' comedy festival, but less on the actual economic benefits these activities bring to the city. VCF reps pointed out the lack of a strategic focus, with no discussion of 'what' should be marketed, to 'whom' and 'why'; as well as how other marketers would be persuaded to follow a common strategy. Need for a unique selling point for Sheffield – "Made in Sheffield"? – which would be relevant to those living in the city as well as those outside. These issues to be followed up at the Feb Board mtg.

Date of next meeting: 16 Dec* & 8 Feb 2010

*Key points from 16 Dec mtg. to be reported in the Jan 2010 bulletin – discussion items to include a low carbon economy, and a forward transport strategy.

Liaison Person: Mike Hodson [OFFER] T: 0114 253 6730 [E. mikeh@offer.org.uk](mailto:mikeh@offer.org.uk)

SF Children & Young People 0-19+ Partnership Board

Not scheduled to meet this month

A selection process for VCF reps for this Board is currently underway – full details of appointments in the next bulletin

Date of next meeting: 7 January 2010

Liaison Person: VAS Planning and Partnership Team T: 2536746

Other news & information:

The Sheffield Community Economic Network [**SCEN**] meets on a monthly basis. For more information visit our **SCEN** webpage at: www.offer.org.uk/content.php?c=134 or contact **Mike Hodson** T: 0114 253 6730 [E: mikeh@offer.org.uk](mailto:mikeh@offer.org.uk)

Finally..... if you have any suggestions for this e-bulletin, or any other items you would like included in the Jan 2010 edition please email them to suef@offer.org.uk by Wed 27 Jan.

Both this and previous editions of the Sheffield First e-bulletin are available for download from our website www.offer.org.uk