



# OFFER Sheffield First e-bulletin

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.

January 2010 edition

## Contact Us:

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## Sheffield First Partnership Board: Met 13 Jan

### VCF sector reps influenced for:-

- The importance of putting in place actions which will enable communities to support each other during the social impacts of the recession. If you want to get an overview of the possible social impacts of the recession on Sheffield to help you with your organisation's planning the presentation is available at:  
<http://www.offer.org.uk/resources/documents/8770NBV1.pdf>
- Reps also influenced for the inclusion of some key indicators so that the Board can track these social impacts over the coming months/years.
- For getting a clear timetable for the production of a plan for how the Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership is going to deliver its 'sustainable' aspect
- If communities of interest would like to address the Sheffield First Partnership about their hopes and aspirations for the city, to contact Kirstie Haines.

**Date of next meeting: 10 Feb 2010**

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

## SF Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership Board: Not scheduled to meet in Jan

**Date of next meeting: 4 Feb 2010**

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

## SF Health and Well-Being Partnership Board: Not scheduled to meet in Jan

**Recent recruitment process for this Board** – 2 additional VCF representatives, Abtisam Mohammed & Tim Woolliscroft have been appointed bringing the total number of VCF reps on this Board to 3 [of the 5 available places]. A full list of SF VCF reps can be found at:  
<http://www.offer.org.uk/content.php?c=44>

**Date of next meeting: 9 February 2010**

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

## SF Environment Partnership: Met 27 Jan

### Key points and what VCF reps influenced:

- It was proposed this Board give strategic support and act as ambassadors for Sheffield is My Planet [aimed at encouraging people to champion a low carbon Sheffield & make pledges of how they can contribute]. VCF reps suggested; publicising SIMP through libraries & Meadowhall during environment weeks, and the idea of bringing the plethora of champions together. Visit the Sheffield is My Planet website at <http://sheffieldsmyplanet.co.uk>
- The Board received a presentation on the development process of the City Strategy. VCF reps suggested the Strategy include a 'measure' for the city which looked at a wider view of 'prosperity' [not just economic growth] but included health, wellbeing & inclusion which would be helpful in embedding the sustainability agenda across the Partnerships.
- Points from the Strong Economy Board's discussions [see below] on creating a Low Carbon Economy were fed in. It was encouraging to hear that the Strong Economy Board viewed a Low Carbon Economy as an opportunity, rather than a burden or restraint.

**Date of next meeting: 10 March**

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

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**SF Strong Economy Board: Not scheduled to meet In Jan but met twice in Dec on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. As we only reported last month on the 1<sup>st</sup> one, here's an update.**

### Key points and what VCF reps influenced:

- The main discussion item was creating a Low Carbon Economy. Key questions were around; roles of the different sectors, what opportunities there might be for Sheffield, what the priorities should be, and links to other strategies. Key issues raised by VCF sector reps were around: **1.** Skills – may be a skills gap for people to be in a position to capitalise on low carbon economy jobs. The Board agreed to commission research into what skills would be needed and how to meet the gap, the role of the Skills Funding Agency and key providers such as Sheffield College was highlighted. **2.** How we maximise the benefit of new [nuclear] technology for Sheffield - need to have a Sheffield technology strategy which focuses on key areas/specialisms. **3.** The need to change people's mindsets about the reality of green jobs – feels like many view this as 'stuff of the future' rather than an immediate reality.
- The forward Transport Strategy for South Yorkshire was briefly discussed, with a specific VCF sector consultation event happening on Friday 19 Feb, 1.45 to 4pm at The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane. Contact Hayley Mahone at SYPTE to book your place / find out more E: [hayley.mahone@sypte.co.uk](mailto:hayley.mahone@sypte.co.uk)

**Date of next meeting: 8 Feb 2010**

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

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**SF Children & Young People 0-19+ Partnership Board: met 7 Jan 2010**

### Key points and VCF rep influence:

- The Integrated Youth support strategy – VCF representatives raised concerns received from organisations across the city that it did not make much reference to City Wide services for young people, and concerns that Young People who need support and services that are currently offered City wide such as young people with disabilities, will not receive the services they need through a locality based strategy. VCF reps raised concerns that the strategy did not place any emphasis on the role of Youth Work and asked what the role of existing Youth Work practitioners and Youth Work organisations would be. They were informed that organisations would have the opportunity to raise these concerns as part of the proposed consultation on the draft strategy and were assured that the intention was to deliver a menu of city wide and locality based provision from which young people could choose.
- Young People from Sheffield Youth Council asked which 600 young people had been consulted on in drawing up the draft strategy and where they were from. They were informed that the work predated the Youth Council and had been taking place over the last 2 years, and groups that had been consulted included parents groups and other groups across the city. Young People from Sheffield Youth Council raised concerns about the level of consultation with young people and are concerned that they have not been consulted or involved in the development of the draft strategy to date.
- The Board welcomed and were supportive of the development of a Sheffield Strategy for Children and Young People with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities and the 14 to 19 Learning for Life strategy.
- A discussion took place about the use of Mosquito devices to deter young people from congregating. It was confirmed that the partnership does not promote the use of these and a clear message needed to be communicated that the partnership does not support them.
- A paper on the proposals to develop Sheffield Children's Hospital to provide better accommodation facilities to parents and Children was welcomed by the board.
- A paper about the plan and process to develop the Sheffield 0 to 5 Strategy was discussed. It was noted that VCF sector providers are involved as their contribution is integral to this.
- A progress report was made on the Local Area Agreement. Sheffield Youth Council raised concerns that whilst the target for reducing bullying has remained at the target set for reducing incidence experienced by children and young people in the *last year*, the question being asked to children and young people has been changed to recording incidents occurring in the last 4 weeks, which may reduce the level of incidence reported and not reflect the annual incidence.

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

**Liaison Person:** VAS Planning and Partnership Team T: 2536746

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### Other news & information:

A Healthy Sheffield Network Event – '**Reducing Health Inequalities in Sheffield**' is happening on 11 Feb, 9am to 1pm at Ponds Forge. The event is open to non-network members and provides the opportunity to input into the Health Inequalities Plan currently which is currently under development. The event flyer can be downloaded from: <http://www.offer.org.uk/resources/documents/Programme%20and%20Flyer%20110210.pdf>  
Bookings via Anna Caig, Public Health Improvement Team  
E: [anna.caig@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:anna.caig@sheffield.gov.uk)

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

The **Adult Learning Forum** met in Jan - key discussion topics; an ESOL strategy, and how to manage and ensure equality of learning provision in light of budget cuts/ cuts in provision. For full details visit OFFER's Adult Learning Forum webpage:  
<http://www.offer.org.uk/content.php?c=98>

**Sheffield Disability Network** launch event – 10am to 12.30pm Thursday 18 Feb, visit our events page for more details:  
<http://www.offer.org.uk/content.php?c=31>

Both this and previous editions of the Sheffield First e-bulletin are available for download from our website [www.offer.org.uk](http://www.offer.org.uk)

Full Partnership Board agendas, minutes and reports are available from the Sheffield First Partnership website: <http://www.sheffieldfirst.net/index.asp?pgid=91675>

**Finally..... if you have any suggestions for this e-bulletin, or any other items you would like included in the Feb 2010 edition please email them to [suef@offer.org.uk](mailto:suef@offer.org.uk) by Thursday 25 Feb.**

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**Sue Faxon**

Information & Publicity Officer

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**Free short course opportunity - 'How Your Area Works'** is ideal for anyone who wants to learn:

- how and where decisions for your area are made and how to influence them.
- opportunities created by the new Community Assemblies
- who is working for change in your area

**For more information /request a booking form either E:[info@offer.org.uk](mailto:info@offer.org.uk) or T: 0114 2536730**

You can also book online at [www.offer.org.uk/events](http://www.offer.org.uk/events)

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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