

Time commenced : 6.30pm
Time finished : 7.50pm

GENDER & SEXUALITY DIVERSITY FORUM 19 MAY 2009

Present: Councillor Winter (Chair)
Councillors Bolton and Leeming

In Attendance:

Community Representatives

Nasreen Akhtar – Community Safety Partnership
Famida Bhatti – Refuge
Barbara Elks – Women in Neighbouring Communities
Emma Boyes – Derbyshire Friend
Margaret Broadhurst – Soroptomist International
Gillian Croft – Reflection
Julie Goodall – Transcend
Toni Montinaro – Derbyshire Friend
Dionne Reid – Women's Work – In the Chair
Susan Rhodes – Reflection
Nasreen Sabir – Hadhari Nari Women's Project
Beth Seymour – Transcend
Gill Taylor – Soroptomist International of Derby

Council and Other Officers

Tracy Arnold – Community Safety Partnership
Christine Collingwood – Consultation Support Manager
Laura Butler – Constitutional Services Officer
Daniel Cooper – Constitutional Services Officer
Liz Moore – Head of Human Resources – Environmental Services
Pamela Thompson – Consultation Support Officer
Ann Webster – Equality and Diversity Manager

57/08 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Holmes, Susan Boon and Lynette Anglin.

58/08 Introductions

The Forum members introduced themselves and welcomed new members.

59/08 Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 10 March 2009 were agreed as a correct record and noted.

60/08 Update on Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Sub group meeting held with Social Services were attached to the Agenda. The Forum was informed that another meeting with representatives from Children and Young People was to take place.

61/08 Work Programme 2008/2009

The Forum considered the work programme and objectives for 2008/09.

The Forum decided for the next meeting issues 13 and 14 on the work programme will be discussed.

The Consultation Support Officer informed the Forum of a work shop which will be set up for Forum Members to attend to discuss and decide on issues for the next Work Programme 2009/10.

Agreed to approve the work programme.

62/08 Open Discussion / Questions and Answer Sheet

The Forum were reminded about the questions and answers sheet attached to the Agenda. The sheet could be used to request information for a future meeting or ask any questions relating to a subject at the Forum which they felt they had not had time to answer.

Agreed to note the update.

63/08 Prostitution

The Forum received a presentation on tackling kerb crawling and street prostitution from Tracy Arnold. The Forum were informed of the actions Derby Community Safety Partnership were taking for kerb crawling these include letters being sent to the houses of the men who do it, also adverts on bill boards and on the radio informing the public of the danger and risks.

Actions for prostitution are leaflets informing them of support and help for drug treatment and help with violence. Derby Community Safety Partnership is working with the public in the affected areas of the city. They want to reduce the level of anti-social behaviour and keep the residents informed on the activity and progress. Already in affected areas white lighting has been installed, CCTV and security has been improved. The Forum was informed that since the actions have been in place there has been a 66% reduction.

Tracy Arnold also informed everyone that the Family Justice Centre opens on the 19 June 2009. Forum members will receive an invitation to the event.

Agreed to note the presentation

64/08 Prostitution

The Forum received a presentation on the achievements of Women's Work from Dionne Reid. She informed the Forum of the drop-in centre for sex workers. The

drop-in centre provides support advice and information to female substance misusers targeting those involved in prostitution to improve their health and emotional well being. The organisation works to encourage those with addictions to access drug treatment and help to reduce the risks caused to themselves and the wider community. The centre has 12 paid staff and has been in operation successfully since June 2003. The centre helps in a number of ways for example it provides help with housing lists, a counselling service, family support and support for sex workers who are physical attacked. The Forum felt that the centre is very useful and the figures evidence this.

Agreed to note the presentation.

65/08 International Women's Day

Pam Thompson informed the Forum of the feedback received from the recent Women's Day event held at The Spot in March. It had been very successful with more than 350 people attending. The main negative comments were about the size of the venue.

For next Year's event the Darwin Suite at the Assembly Rooms had been booked. Forum members have been invited to submit any comments or ideas for the next year's event to Dionne Reid. The International Women's day organisers' main concern is funding. Forum members were invited to put forward any contacts that may be able to assist. There is a planning meeting on 15 June 2009 and if any Forum Members would like to be involved, contact Dionne Reid.

Agreed to:

- 1. note the Feedback**
- 2. contact Dionne Reid with suggestions for next year's event or if members would like to take part.**

66/08 Next Meeting – 7 July 2009

The next pre-meeting will be held on Wednesday 10 June 2009 at 3pm, Dionne Reid, Councillors Leeming and Winter will attend the pre-meeting.

MINUTES END