

ITEM 5

Time commenced : 6.34pm
Time finished : 8.25pm

GENDER & SEXUALITY DIVERSITY FORUM 25 MAY 2010

Present: Councillor Winter (Chair)
Councillor Leeming

In Attendance:

Community Representatives

Alice Buckle – DACP
Famida Bhatti – Refuge
Nasreen Sabir – Hadhari Nari Project
Katrina Sharp – Derbyshire Friend
Celia Beysley – Soroptomist International
Julie Goodall – Transcend
Dionne Reid – Women's Work
Toni Montinaro – Derbyshire Friend
Satinder Panesar – Refuge
Pat Wallace – Friendship Group
Rehana Kauser – Derby Women's Centre
Yazmen Nazur – Derby Women's Centre
Matthew Allbones – Community Action
Mary Roland – DACP
Sue Storey – Mickleover Neighbourhood Board
Vanessa Boon - Energise

Council and Other Officers

Liz Beswick – Derby City Council
Dan Cooper – Derby City Council
Ann Webster – Derby City Council
Liz Moore – Derby City Council
Pam Thompson – Derby City Council
Tracey Arnold – Derby Community Safety Partnership

55/09 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received by, Nasreen Iqbal, Eileen Christie, Bernadette Pinnock, Lynette Anglin, Wivine Empa Maniata, Susan Boon, Beth Seymour, Albertine Paka Di Phoba and Christine Collingwood.

56/09 Late items to be introduced by the Chair

There was one late item introduced by the chair from Matt Allbones. The Chair suggested that the Forum consider this at Item 6 – The Question and Answer Session.

57/09 Notes of the last meeting held on 30 March 2010

The notes of the meeting held on 30 March were agreed as a correct record.

58/09 Updates on matters arising from the previous meeting

The Forum was provided with an update on the LGBT events happening at QUAD. Flyers were distributed to the Members.

Resolved to note the update.

59/09 Work Programme 2009/2010

The Forum considered the work programme for 2009/2010.

It was reported that the Forum had reached item 14 on the work programme. Members were asked to reflect on this year's work programme and propose items for the coming year.

Toni Montinaro requested that the forum investigate Community Transport in the city, focusing on the issues and what is being done. Ann Webster stated that she could provide an update on this at a future meeting.

Resolved to approve the work programme and the item requested by the Forum.

60/09 Open Discussion / Question and Answer Sheet

The Forum was reminded that a question and answer sheet would be attached to each agenda. The purpose of the sheet was to request information for a future Forum or to ask any questions relating to a subject that it was felt had not been addressed during a Forum.

Matt Allbones gave an oral presentation to the Forum on a review Community Action has completed looking at all the issues impacting of the third sector. The report assessed the following areas:

- Improving people's influence on policy making
- Communications with statutory partners
- How to respond to the funding issues faced by the third sector
- Recruitment and retention of volunteers
- Staff development

Community Action has developed an action plan to help voluntary organisations respond to all these issues.

The Chair stated that this was an important report that needs the full consideration to the Forum and suggested that it be tabled into the work programme.

Resolved to presentation and add the report to the 2010/2011 Work Programme.

61/09 Children and Young People's Approved List

The Forum received a presentation on the Children and Young People's Approved List from Liz Beswick. She stated that officers were in the process of developing a framework for approved providers. This will mean that every external provider of a service that the Council uses will need to fill in a pre-qualification questionnaire before they can be vetted and used. This is because the Council is responsible for ensuring that all the providers it uses are fit for purpose. Services will then be able to choose their provider from the approved list.

The Forum raised concern that the risk the Council is exposed to is disproportionate to the level of checking that the authority requires. Liz Beswick stated that if the Council does not have these safeguards in place then authority would be liable.

Resolved to:

- A. Note the presentation;**
- B. Request that the report which will be considered by Council Cabinet on 6 July be brought before the Forum for comment.**

62/09 Community Safety Partnership

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

63/09 Domestic Violence, Forced Marriage and School Children

The Forum received a presentation on the Derby Family Justice Centre's work to reduce domestic violence and forced marriages in the city by Tracy Arnold. It was reported that the centre, based at St Peter's House, operates a victim centred approach to support both women and men. A wide range of services and providers all feed into the support that is offered to the victims.

Tracy Arnold stated that Derby's court had been designated a pilot court for forced marriage protection orders. So far the Derby Family Justice Centre has not applied for a forced marriage protection order as none of the cases have needed such a measure.

The Chair stated that the centre needs to ensure that its reporting mechanisms are located in the areas which those in need of help are likely to use. Ann Webster suggested that some older persons may not often report domestic violence and information material should be available in the shop mobility

centre to provide a contact point. Mary Roland stated that Freedom Delivers is a group which operates within the Family Justice Centre and is used to working with older groups. This could be another method for the Centre to reach older persons.

The Chair asked if the Family Justice Centre would be able to participate in International Women's Day to showcase its work. Tracy Arnold stated that she would contact the organiser Dionne Reid to see what input the Centre could have. Tracy Arnold asked for a volunteer to help with an equality impact assessment on the Centre. Dionne Reid stated that she would assist Tracy.

Resolved to note the presentation and for Tracy to liaise with Dionne Reid about the Family Justice Centre's involvement in International Women's Day.

64/09 International Women's Day

The Chair informed the Forum that this event had been successful year on year but relies on the support of volunteers to guarantee its success. The Chair asked if anyone would be interested in helping Dionne Reid.

Resolved to note the expressions of interest from Tracy Arnold, Sue Storrey and Vanessa Boon to support the planning of the 2010 International Women's Day.

65/09 Next meeting: 20 July 2010

It was agreed that Members would contact Pam Thompson to express their interest to attend the pre meeting on 16 June 2010.

MINUTES END