

Time commenced : 6.30pm
Time finished : 8.30pm

GENDER & SEXUALITY DIVERSITY FORUM 27 JANUARY 2009

Present: Representing Derby City Council

Councillor Winter (Chair)
Councillor Holmes
Councillor Leeming
Councillor Skelton

Community Representatives

Lynette Anglin – Friendship Group
Famida Bhatti – Refuge
Michael Briscoe – Sure Start Men's Group
Susan Boon – Women in Neighbouring Communities
Eileen Christie – Friendship Group
Gillian Croft – Reflection
Julie Goodall – Transend
Shirley Howard-Johnson – Friday Friend
Bill Hussey – Derbyshire Friend
Toni Montinaro – Derbyshire Friend
Bernadette Pinnock – Friendship Group
John Raybould – Derbyshire Friend
Dionne Reid – Women's Work
Nasreen Sabir – Hadhari Nari Women's Project
Beth Seymour – Transcend
Mark Smith - Sure Start Men's Group
Gill Taylor – Soroptomist International

Council and Other Officers

Christine Collingwood – Consultation Support Manager
Daniel Cooper – Constitutional Services Officer
Sheila Downey – Senior Assistant Director – Adult Social Services
Helen Ham – Derbyshire Police
Laura Martin – Derby Community Safety Partnership
Liz Moore – Head of Human Resources – Environmental Services
Pamela Thompson – Consultation Support Officer
Ann Webster – Equality and Diversity Manager
Yvonne Wilkinson – Head of Communications and Consultation
Katy Wing – Voluntary and Community Partnerships Manager

31/08 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Nasreen Akhtar, Councillor Bolton, Margaret Broadhurst, Cherry Henry, Arshia Iqbal, Nasreen Iqbal, Yasmin Nazir, Susan Rhodes.

32/08 Introductions

The Forum members introduced themselves and welcomed new members. The Chair of the Forum requested that name plates be provided for all members at future meetings.

Agreed that plates be provided for delegates at meetings of the Gender and Sexuality Diversity Forum.

33/08 Position of Vice Chair

Dionne Reid of the Women's Work organisation volunteered to fill the vacant post of Vice Chair.

Agreed that Dionne Reid be appointed Vice Chair of the Gender and Sexuality Diversity Forum.

34/08 Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 11 November 2008 were agreed as a correct record and noted.

35/08 Update on Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

There were no updates on matters arising from the previous meeting.

36/08 Funding: Community Grants Budget

The Forum received a presentation from Katy Wing on funding for the Community Grants Budget focusing on the funding process, current funds and grants available to community groups, improvements to the access to grant funding and the application process.

Beth Seymour asked how the Council plans to monitor and record which gender related groups receive funding. Katy Wing stated that it would need to be done in a sensitive manner for each case but she thought that it may also be an anonymous submission.

Toni Montinaro asked how groups could ensure that their applications for funding were successful. Katy Wing stated that each application should be supported by a strong evidence base and that members of staff at the Council were on hand to provide advice whenever it was needed.

Agreed to note the presentation.

37/08 Vulnerable People and Housing

The Forum received a presentation from Sheila Downey and Councillor Skelton on issues surrounding the work of Adult Social Services to aid vulnerable people assist in keeping permanent housing. Issues covered were:

Those considered vulnerable;
The number of people aided by the service;
The funding allocated for the scheme;

The processes used to help vulnerable people; and
How this was applicable to the Forum.

Shirley Howard-Johnson suggested that officers try working with local churches to identify the elderly people in the community who are in need.

The Chair asked whether some vulnerable people were able to read the print size used in many of the leaflets. The Chair also questioned whether using leaflets or formal letters were the best way to contact vulnerable people and inform them of the schemes available to them. John Raybould suggested that it may be cheaper to the Council to send officers out to visit vulnerable people rather than relying on printed publications.

Councillor Leeming asked for clarification on the future projections for dementia care in Derby. Sheila Downey stated that cases were set to increase by 36 percent over the next 10 years.

Toni Montinaro suggested that closer working and consultation with Help the Aged could provide a better solution to personalised services to vulnerable people.

Agreed to note the presentation and the suggested solutions.

38/08 Work Programme 2008/2009

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

Pamela Thompson advised the Forum that the next item under consideration would be Prostitution and the Community Safety Partnership were leading on this item. Dionne Reid offered to feed into their presentation.

Agreed to approve the work programme.

39/08 International Women's Day

Dionne Reid updated the Forum on the developments relating to International Women's day. The event is to be held on Saturday, 7 March, 10am-4pm at the Spot Banqueting Suite, Sacheverel Street, Derby. At this free event there will be stalls, activities for all ages and refreshments. Flyers for the event were circulated at the meeting. Men are also welcome to attend the event.

Agreed to note the update.

40/08 Name for the Forum

Members discussed the new name of the Forum and whether it was appropriate for the topics they would be considering.

The Forum confirmed that it would retain the name; Gender and Sexuality Diversity Forum.

41/08 Open Discussion

Beth Seymour requested that she be allowed to give a presentation on transgender to the next meeting of the Forum.

Agreed that the Forum will receive a presentation from Beth Seymour at the next meeting.

42/08 Next Forum Pre-Meeting – 11 February 2009

The next pre-meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 February 2009 at 3pm, and Pam Thompson asked for volunteers from Forum members representing organisations.

Agreed that volunteers be sourced from the Forum for the pre-meeting.

MINUTES END