

Northampton Borough Council - Northampton Women's Forum

Tuesday, 25 July 2017 at 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Agenda

1. Welcomes, introductions and apologies
2. Minutes and matters arising
3. Election of Chair
4. Housing and Wellbeing - Phil Harris
5. National Rape Crisis Week of Action and Domestic violence month - Debbie Fergusson and Dawn Thomas
6. Action plan
7. Community information exchange
8. AOB

Map and directions at: www.northampton.gov.uk/guildhall

For more information about this meeting please contact:
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More information about the Forum generally is at: www.northampton.gov.uk/forums



Facebook page: www.northampton.gov.uk/dcf

Please note that this Forum is supported and funded by Northampton Borough Council. The Forum may work in partnership and collaboration with other community groups, councils and local services from time to time. The views expressed and decisions taken by the Forum are not necessarily those of Northampton Borough Council.



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Northampton Borough Council - Northampton Women's Forum

Tuesday, 16 May 2017 11am – 1pm

1. WELCOMES, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

AK welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Present: Anna King (Co Chair AK NBC), Pauline woodhouse (Co-Chair PW), Paula Whitworth (Women's Institute PW1), Aimee Luck (AL, NBC), Nisha Mejer (NM, NBC), Neelam Aggarwal-Singh (NAS, IHWO), Dawn Thomas (DT, NRC), Nicola O'Neill (NO Aquarius), Ballie Kaur (BK, Working Links), Rachel Packman (RP, Police), Vicki Rocakall (VR, NBC), Sheila Baker (SB, Towns Womens Guild)

Apologies: Kate Scott, Jeanette Pidgen, Louise Musson, Morcea Walker and Karolina Zalewska

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes were recorded as true to record.

Matters arising: Phil Harris coming to next meeting to discuss welfare reform.

3. BALJIT KAUR AND SALLY HACKETT - WORKING LINKS

Working Links support people out of work to get back into work. The organisation is an extension of the Job Centre and gives dedicated one to one support. The organisation works especially with people with barriers, eg vulnerable adults, single parents etc. The programme is running for 3 years.

People can enrol on a 52 week programme where intensive support is given, eg – interview practice, application forms. There is a varied amount of work. There is also another programme which helps people who want to do self-employed work.

Working Links is based in Moulton Park. There is a small pot of funding to help travel costs.

Provide in work support when placements have been made.

Working Links works towards promoting independence and empowering people to access support. Employers have to accommodate.

Referral process is simple. Can sign post people to the organisation. Work in partnership with companies like Evolve and work across the areas of the county.

Q: What ages can help?

A: Working age

Q: Do you help people on benefits?

A: Yes work closely with the JC. Find out about support for individuals.

Q: What's the difference between the Job Centre and you?

A: Give one to one support and can spend time with people.

Q: People who have completed courses with Job Centre before, can they still access you?

A: Yes. If we can't help we will try and signpost people.
Q: Do you work with companies offering apprenticeships?
A: Yes, eg colleges.
Q: Are you still engaging with communities?
A: Yes. Have a presence at the One Stop Shop every Monday.

Trying to contact community centres Have to make an appointment.
Contact details – email ESF@workinglinks.co.uk
ACTION: NM to contact BK to attend community centre forum.

4. MARTIN PARSONS - NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE RECRUITMENT

The Fire Services are recruiting. The closing date is 29th May.

5. ACTION PLAN

International Women's Day:

Completed for March 2017. Went very well.

Northampton Town Women – would like to be involved for next event. A speaker from the organisation could do a speech before the award is presented.

ACTION: SB to ask and get back to us.

ACTION: AK to contact Priti Patel from Inter Faith Network.

Northamptonshire Rape Crisis Week of Action and Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Violence Against Women and Children Awareness Week. International End Violence Against Women and Girls Day November 25th.

16 days of Action commencing November 25th – December 10th

ACTION: NM to invite DF to be on the next agenda. DT confirmed to work in partnership.

It was asked whether anything was done with the work done by the Forum on a previous occasion around the BME community.

DT: Nothing moved forward due to funding and capacity. This is from the NADASA prospective.

Support for victims of Inter Personal Violence

Legal support: AK to meet June 15th at NREC to discuss this matter further. NAS: Has been signposted to solicitors. But not received help. Apparently the Law Society may be able to help. NAS to contact Rights of Women organisation.

Letter to be drafted by the Forum to send to the Law Society. Need to pin point what services are missing and what the needs are. Need Legal representation for women in court.

ACTION: Everybody to submit email to AL and a letter can be drafted to send to the Law Society. Ask questions why there is a gap and how the forum can support. A

case study can be highlighted. Issues to be outlined in the letter.
MP to be copied into the letter. Deadline for comments is 26th May. Draft by following week. To go out week commencing June 5th.

ACTION: Forum can discuss at PCC meeting in July. Vicki Martin is the contact in the OPCC.

Hate Crime Awareness Week

HCAW: Conference I'm Still Me. – AK to discuss there. Still trying to contact NCC. Focus of LGBT and getting peer groups to support.

RP: To contact schools to see if there is way to involve in project work.

Can use afternoon tea event to launch a schools project.

ACTION: NM to book Court Room.

6. COMMUNITY INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Message from Katarina (VOICE): I'm sure many people are already aware, but as of 1st October 2017, victim and witness services in Northamptonshire will no longer be provided by Victim Support. The OPCC have made the decision to take VW services in-house and the full business case is available to the public. The organisation will be a Company Limited by Guarantee (VOICE) and I want to just say that we have been re-assured that this will not affect any services available to individuals in the county. VOICE for Children and Young People remain as they are for now until their contract renewal in 2019.

NM: Police And Crime Commissioner meeting on 20th July 2-4pm. Wootton Headquarters.

NAS: Diwali lights 14th October. Would like the forums to be involved. Happy to accommodate ideas and suggestions.

NAS: Chai and Chat – meeting every Friday. Celebrating one year anniversary. 12 - 2pm. Weston Favell Parish Hall.

PW: Leaflet handed out for victims of crime with cases going through the criminal court. Leaflet specific to Restorative Justice in VOICE.

PW: WI invited to be part of the next IWD. WI meet on Milton Street, Kingsley Park Terrace.

SB: Four guilds in Northampton. Meet together to do various activities. Was a trustee on the national board.

DT: We are looking to apply to the Big Lottery to develop a Women's and Girls Centre. Would like to know what services can be delivered to men and boys too.

ACTION: DT to send details to be forwarded to the forum.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR NEXT MEETING

NM to invite Debbie Fergusson and DT to discuss IPV Week
Phil Harris to discuss Welfare Reform
Update on letter.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

25th July 11am -1pm, The Guildhall.

Code of Conduct for the Forums

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards that the Forums expect of its members. It aims to provide members with an effective ethical framework in which to do business. It is not intended to be exhaustive, or to cover every eventuality, but sets out some common sense requirements to enable the forums to function smoothly and successfully.

It is the responsibility of the Chair to encourage and enable input from forum members, to ensure all voices are heard.

1. Meeting Etiquette

As an attendee you must comply with the following requirements and any others that may be stated from time to time:

- 1.1** Contribute positively to discussions concerning the issues of the meeting
- 1.2** Be friendly, polite, courteous and respectful at all times to fellow members, and others present
- 1.3** Not insult, abuse or use offensive language or behaviour
- 1.4** Comply with Northampton Borough Councils Equal Opportunities Policy
- 1.5** Demonstrate actively that you are interested in and care about the issue that you are discussing and want to make a positive difference
- 1.6** Show respect for buildings, facilities and equipment being used
- 1.7** Speak only through the Chairman of the meeting and not interrupt, heckle, make distracting noises or gestures
- 1.8** Speak clearly into any microphone provided and comply with any instructions given about its use

2. Being Objective

- 2.1** Your own experience and views should inform, but not dominate or dictate how you participate.
- 2.2** If you have a specific issue with regards to a service matter to raise these can be discussed with a member of staff at the end of the each meeting or you can ask for the appropriate officer details. Meetings attended by other residents are not the place to raise any issues of this nature.
- 2.3** Be Fair
- 2.4** You must have and show respect for the people you deal with, and take their circumstances and personal differences into account. This is about putting equality into practice. The key is simply to respect differences fairly, so that you do not exclude anyone, or treat anyone inappropriately or unfairly because of their particular circumstances.

Breaching the Code of Conduct

If any person's behaviour breaches this Code of Conduct, they will be required to leave the meeting and vacate the premises where it is being held. They will not be permitted to attend future meetings unless they provide satisfactory evidence to Northampton Borough Council that they will comply with the Code – e.g. a letter of apology.

If you would like further information or if you would like to discuss the Code of Conduct please contact Vicki Rockall, Partnerships and Communities Manager at vrockall@northampton.gov.uk or on 01604 837074

Northampton Women’s Forum Action Plan 2014

Chair:	Cllr Anna King (NBC) and Pauline Woodhouse	Responsible Forum:	Northampton Women’s Forum
Outcomes identified within the Corporate Plan:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowered local communities with a greater capacity to become involved in community life Promote integration and cohesion Appropriate support provided to those in most need Services are fair, accessible and responsive to individual needs residents and customers feel informed and engaged in service quality and design Future developments informed by the views of local people Delivery of events to celebrate and enjoy the Town’s heritage and culture 		
Priorities agreed for 2016:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivering partnership activities collectively – adding value Communicating together better Health and wellbeing, including violence against women 		

Actions:

Ⓞ Action	Owner	Activity (intelligence led)	Timescale	Cost	Measure	Last Updated
International Women’s Day	Cllr.A King/ N Mejer / VRockall	Anna, Vicki, Nisha and Liz Carroll Wheat met to discuss plans for IWD. Guildhall booked and Nisha and Liz making contact with organisations and performers.	March 2016	£1000.00	Event March 4 th 2017	Nov 2016
Happy Day	N Mejer / P Woodhouse	Partnership Health and Wellbeing ‘Happy’ event led by Northampton Women’s Forum. Event in the Racecourse, with key health partners involved, and cover variety of health issues.	June 2016	£1000.00	Event delivered – number of attendees	March 2016
Northamptonshire Rape Crisis Week of Action and Domestic Violence Awareness Month.		Debbie Fergusson to attend Women’s Forum to discuss ideas and ways to support.	October 2017	TBC	TBC	Dec 2016
Support for victims of DV		Explore possibility of Pro-Bono legal support – practical and meaningful. Cllr King to speak to Chambers to see if this something they could offer	October 2017			January 2017