

## **NYSP Equalities Task Group**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2008**

#### **1. Present:**

Neil Irving (Chair)	North Yorkshire County Council
Helen Black	North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations
Tony Clark	Richmondshire District Council
Bob Curry	North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations
Drew Fussey	Selby District Council
Marinder Kaur	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
Stuart Pudney	North Yorkshire Police Authority
Graham Purdey	NHS North Yorkshire and York
Rosie Qureshi	North Yorkshire Police
Kay Ritchie	North Yorkshire County Council
David Walker	North Yorkshire County Council
James Walker	North Yorkshire Area Learning Partnership

#### **2. Apologies**

Evie Chandler	City of York Council
Ann Duncan	Harrogate Borough Council
Paul Ellis	Craven District Council
Guru Naidoo	Broadacres Housing Association
Jez Rushworth	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
Kate Senior	Craven District Council

#### **3. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**

- 3.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2008 were approved and there were no matters arising.

#### **4. Progress report on the Strategic review on the impact of inward migration in North Yorkshire from the EU accession states**

- 4.1. KR presented an update on the strategic review document which was now out for consultation. The consultation would 'test' the findings and recommendations of the strategic action learning set group and partners with communities across North Yorkshire. The report and consultation questions were available on the NYSP website and a schedule of consultation events had been drawn up to ensure good coverage of the County and different communities, including the migrant community. Members were invited to consider whether there were further opportunities to consult with existing groups and to make these known to KR/DW.

## **5. Progress report on the development of the North Yorkshire Welcome Pack**

- 5.1. A provider had been agreed for the development of the NYSP Welcome Pack and text had been received from most partners for the service directory. This would now be translated into the 4 languages recommended by the action learning set on the basis of population; Polish, Czech (Slovakian), Lithuanian and Latvian. All partners were signed up to a protocol on the provision and maintenance of information to the pack, which would help to ensure that the information was accurate and relevant to users. The pack would be updated on a monthly basis to support this.
- 5.2. Once available (anticipated early October), the welcome pack would undergo a 'live on-line test' for 6-8 weeks to enable partners and groups engaged in the strategic review consultation to feed in their comments both to content and promotion methods for the pack. The pack would then be formally 'launched' with a toolkit available to partners to support the promotion of the pack to the community, media and staff.

## **6. Future focus of the Equalities Task Group**

- 6.1. Members of the Group had been invited by email to indicate their top three organisational priorities in the area of equality and diversity which could be furthered through a partnership, problem-solving approach. There had been a diverse range of responses and the Group emphasised that its role was to undertake strategic level actions which would identify more functional activities for other groups to take forward, such as the action learning sets.
- 6.2. Members emphasised the need to build community cohesion and the increased effectiveness of partnership working to reduce duplication and work towards this goal. The community did not distinguish between service providers and CAA would also assess partners jointly on the basis of outcomes, not actions.
- 6.3. It was noted that data and good practice sharing initiatives would be a useful element to the work of the Group and that strategic actions leading to improved outcomes for local people should be the focus of the Group's work. It was agreed that a presentation on the Neighbourhood Profile project should be included at a future meeting.
- 6.4. Members agreed that common action to support the achievement of organisational performance indicators/standards was also a useful aspect of the work of the Group, but the Group's strength was partly due to the fact that it had a broad membership and was not an Equality Officers' Group.
- 6.5. It was agreed that the identified priorities would be circulated to members to rank in order of preference for the next meeting.

## **7. NYSP Equalities Task Group web pages**

- 7.1. KR had made a number of improvements to the NYSP Equalities Task Group web pages following comments made at the last meeting. It was proposed that the Statement of intent on social cohesion, the NYSP Sustainable Communities Strategy and links to legislative drivers be added to give context to the work of the Group.
- 7.2. Members also thought the website presented a good opportunity to share good practice activities with partners and the public and KR agreed to produce a template and circulate for contributions.

## **8. Any Other Business**

- 8.1. There was no other business to be considered

## **9. Date of next meeting**

- 9.1. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 December 2008, 10 am – 12 noon at County Hall, Northallerton.