



Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

Tuesday 6th September 2016

Support to the Voluntary and Community Sector in Gateshead

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Gateshead Strategic Partnership about the additional support offered to the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead.

Background

2. In April 2016 Newcastle CVS (Council for Voluntary Service) was invited to provide support to the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead. There are also other organisations, including Gateshead Council, which support local voluntary and community groups, however this note describes the specific services offered by Newcastle CVS.
3. Since April, the following initiatives have happened:
 - Setting up a base in the Age UK Gateshead office, in High Street Gateshead
 - Appointing three experienced support and development workers
 - Bringing the OurGateshead website up to date
 - Setting up a dedicated Gateshead support website
 - Attending a number of events organised by others
 - Organising 'meet and greet' events in five wards
 - Getting out and about to visit voluntary organisations which provide a variety of services and support to Gateshead residents
 - Supporting local organisations with funding bids
 - Extending the *Inform* newsletter to cover Gateshead
 - Extending the fortnightly *e-inform* e-bulletin to include Gateshead
 - Providing Gateshead-focussed information for *On The Hoof*
 - Making links with key partners in the Council, the NHS and other organisations
 - Attending and participating in key partnership boards and committees
 - Running some initial training events
 - Offering the full CVS service into Gateshead – financial management, payroll, governance support, business development and planning, funding advice etc
 - Linking with community organisations to find out about their needs
 - Using social media to get Gateshead information out quickly
 - Re-establishing the Gateshead Voluntary Sector Leaders Group

Proposal

4. It is proposed that members of the GSP Steering Group consider this activity from their particular perspectives.

Recommendations

5. The GSP Steering Group is asked to consider this report and make comments and suggestions.

Contact: Sally Young

Chief Executive, Newcastle CVS

0191 2327445