

STREET CARERS' FORUM REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

Notes of meeting held 2nd March, at County Hall

Present : Paul Kirkwood – Glenwood Church, Social Action Team Co-ordinator (PK)
Paul Laughlin – New Life Church, Cardiff (PL)
Craig Evans – Highfield Church and TAVs (CE)
Martyn Moss – Glenwood Church (MM),
Andy Webb – Park End Church, Thursday Evening outreach (AW)
Clive Bate – Cornwall Street Baptist Church and Rainbow of Hope (CB)
Keith Kimber – St John's City Parish, meeting recorder (KK)
Paul Hocking – Thornhill Church, Cardiff Gweini Chair, and meeting convener (PH)

Apologies : Louise Thomas – TAVs (LT) Paula Whittingham (PW)

Welcome Ceri Davies (CD) and Phil Lewis (PL) of HANR

1. Purpose of meeting

- a) To introduce Ceri & Phil to SCFRG and its work
- b) To finalise preparations for the training evening on 23rd March
- c) To review practicalities of registration and accreditation

2. PH welcomed CD & PH from the HANR team. CD used to manage Tresilian House, and his job brief concerns housing needs of the homeless. PH is responsible for advice and support for the homeless.

CD wondered if a useful link could be made between the Hub Steering Group (formerly the Vulnerable Persons' Steering Group). It meets quarterly. No dates proposed yet.

In response to a question from KK about on-street chronic drinkers and the cat and mouse game played between them and the police, CD said that the new Custom House facility would include an outdoor 'wet' area to provide them with a safe haven.

Work on Custom House conversion, for use as hostel, is delayed from Oct '09 until Aug '10

The Rep. Group checked the revised information leaflet on homelessness services. It is now on its way into production.

PL spoke about an alternative to the floor in Tresilian House as emergency accommodation for rough sleepers. It is proposed to establish five self contained units, for use as crash pads in the near future. He also spoke about 'Sunwise' – sun protection information for rough sleepers etc..

2. Training evening

Eight subscribers so far, PH to circulate email publicity one more time.

Revised framework for the evening considered acceptable. PH is producing a file of speaker notes for participants to take away with them.

The room in County Hall is booked

3. Accreditation of volunteers

MM reported that completion of CRB check procedure is still fraught with difficulties, partly due to the lack of clarity about what is exactly required of Street Carers by the Council. Is showing a current CRB certificate, of any classification, on its own sufficient?

CD thought that this should suffice for the time being.

The content of the Street Carers' accreditation i/d card was considered. It will contain Council and HANR logos, plus a Street Carers' logo. PL agreed to design and circulate this for approval. It will also contain the words 'Registered Street Carer' with a photo on the front, and on the back the words "Street Carers work with vulnerable persons on Cardiff's streets in partnership with the local authority", plus the all hours contact phone number., and 'If found, please return to Marland House or your nearest Police Station'

4. Funding, constitution

The matter of charitable status, drawing up a constitution and opening a bank account was again raised. PL offered to help with bank account opening. PH agreed to consider the constitution issue.

5. Future meetings

It was agreed that Graham Bird should be invited to join the SCFRG.

Next SCFRG meeting 13 April.

6. Any other business

AW raised for consideration by CD and PL the matter of providing secure storage facilities for street people, a persistent long standing need. They promised this would be raised with the Hub team.