

STREET CARERS' FORUM REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

Notes of meeting held at 7pm, 29 June 2010, at County Hall

Present : Paul Laughlin – New Life Church, Cardiff (PL)
Clive Bate – Cornwall Street Baptist Church and Rainbow of Hope (CB)
Graham Bird – City Temple
Margaret Ashford – Cyncoed Methodist Church
Ceri Davies - Cardiff County Council (HUB)
Paul Hocking – Thornhill Church, Cardiff Gweini Chair, and meeting convener (PH)

Apologies : Andy Webb, Paul Kirkwood, Martyn Moss, Craig Evans, Louise Thomas (and wishes to withdraw from active membership of RG for the foreseeable future, due to other commitments with TAVs etc), Paula Whittingham

Welcome: Margaret Ashford welcomed to the RG for the first time

Purpose of meeting

- a) Review of sessions
- b) Update on registration / accreditation
- c) Other Updates

1. Basic Training evening

Confirmed we were happy with the programme now, though need to ensure Lee Ball can deliver the slot on Substance Misuse (CD)

Also, deliverers need to keep on focussing the content on the practical knowledge needed by those on the streets.

2. Food Hygiene Training

This was the first time the course was run. Those who attended both sessions all passed, and Ceri Davies issued the 14 certificates to be distributed to attendees (PH)

The Tutor was considered excellent and ideal for this type of group.

The sessions were very long and intense, particularly the second one, which included the test at 10pm!

The next course is planned for 2 & 9 November.

As this certificate course is for those who are working in commercial kitchens, it was questioned whether our Street Care teams need this level. To check out whether we could provide a Level 1 Certificate instead, and one specifically focused on Street Care issues (CD).

Ceri will also check whether a budget can be allocated to this, given the new financial climate for the public sector (CD)

3. Substance Misuse and Safety Training

The first course is planned for 2 November. Ceri to contact Lee Ball to ensure he is able to do this evening (CD).

4. CRB and Vetting and Barring Scheme

Given that the VBS has been postponed, for further review, the CRB is the only available standard we can apply at present.

It was confirmed that we continue to encourage Team Leaders to hold a current CRB disclosure, as a minimum, and preferably, for all team members likewise as time progresses.

It is the responsibility of each Street Carer's church/organisation to progress this, as SCFRG has no basis on which to carry out the checks.

There was some discussion about the challenge of using previous offenders as part of Street Care teams. At present, as part of their rehabilitation, some offenders who are part of church teams, wish to participate in serving others in this way. Ceri confirmed that some with criminal records can still get CRB disclosures that allow them to serve in this context, but each individual would have to be checked according to the nature of their criminal record.

5. Register of Street Carers

PH confirms that he holds the current register of those who have completed the SCF Registration form.

The Register also includes their Disclosure Number and date, if they have supplied this.

The Register also includes their ID Card number, if they have completed the training and supplied their Disclosure Number and photo.

6. ID Cards

Ceri has now made arrangements for the production of the 'Registered Street Carer' ID Cards, with the Council/HUB and Street Carers Forum logos on it.

At present, 14 have been issued with ID Cards.

7. City Developments regarding Homeless Services

CD reported that the current recession was increasing those in debt and the number of people becoming homeless.

Fortunately, there is some additional housing stock being made available for those who are newly homeless – these people are more likely to benefit from services if provided early.

The HUB service has developed a monitoring system to try to pick up those who would otherwise fall through the net of services. This Outreach team and the Bus service are key in spotting people on the ground.

However, the increasing numbers of homeless will create a problem, and the last winter the hostels were often full every night. Not so much a problem in the summer, but next winter there may be serious pressures.

The new development is definitely going ahead, and CD is happy to brief the group on the plans in future meetings. The Custom House interim provision is also going ahead, and it is hoped this will be ready for the autumn.

8. Oasis

The Oasis charity which provides services to asylum seekers and refugees has now had to move from Tredegarville Baptist Church and has found suitable provision in the YMCA. CD would be interested to know of this service, as part of the overall provision for the City.

9. Development of the TAVs Centre

TAVs is continuing services by Glenwood Church on Sunday evenings, and by various Church teams on a Monday evening. Martyn Moss and Barry McKeever lead the Glenwood team. Louise and Julian Thomas take the lead for co-ordinating the Monday teams and have been training them and establishing suitable systems. It may be that the teams will grow and take on additional evenings at TAVs.

Paul Kirkwood and Martyn Moss are also establishing a Management Team with all those who provide services at TAVs. PH will plan to meet with this team in the autumn.

10. Constitution

It is agreed that we establish a constitution for an unincorporated association (PH/KK), and a bank account in the name of 'Cardiff Street Carers' Forum' (PL). The first officers will be:

1. Chair – Paul Hocking
2. Secretary – Rev Keith Kimber
3. Treasurer – Paul Laughlin

11. Other items

It is proposed that the RG members visit the Bus service that is provided outside the Museum each evening, and the breakfast run in the mornings, so as to be aware of this provision. (PH).

Also, maybe for Keith and Paul to visit the Wallich Centre and understand the nature of their services (KK/PH)

PH briefed the group on the developments with Foodbank, and will invite Ian and/or Karen Purcell to attend future SCFRG meetings.

11. Dates of Future Meetings

Proposed dates for **SCFRG meetings** are:

- Thursday, 16th September at TAVs at 7pm

Basic Training Dates:

- Tuesday, 28th September at 7pm at County Hall

Further Training Dates

- 2nd Nov – Food Hygiene Part 1 – 7-10pm, County Hall
- 2nd Nov – Substance Misuse and Health and Safety – 7pm-9.30pm, County Hall
- 9th Nov – Food Hygiene Part 2 – 7-10pm, County Hall