

Community Engagement Framework Actions Update

The SCP has established a sub group, the Community Engagement Framework (CEF) Group to undertake detailed work to plan activity and oversee delivery of the CEF and associated actions.

The main report addresses in detail the following areas of work which reflect actions in the Framework:

- ❖ Learning and Development
- ❖ Get Involved Campaign
- ❖ Get Involved Website
- ❖ The Consultation Portal

In addition, the following activity is underway:

Strengthening Communities Review

- ❖ This was an action in the Framework and is being led by the Communities and Equality Team. The Review will undertake a mapping of current engagement activity and will make recommendations for the commissioning of future Stronger Communities activity. This includes community development and activity to support community and voluntary sector involvement, representation and influence in strategic decision-making processes
- ❖ As part of the review, two independent evaluations are underway to assess the value and impact of discrete aspects of Stronger Communities activity

Reward and Recognition

- ❖ A task group has been established to develop guidance on the reward and recognition of service users and community representatives who give their time to engage in processes to improve the quality of services or input to local and strategic planning and decision making.
- ❖ Research has been undertaken looking at what happens in other areas
- ❖ A draft guidance document has been produced.
- ❖ A discussion is planned at the next CEF Group meeting to agree a consultation process and produce a plan

Asset Transfer Policy Development

- ❖ Building on learning from a workshop to discuss issues around the management of assets in the city and potential for asset transfer, a set of 'Policy Principles' have been developed to help guide BHCC through applications for transfer
- ❖ Work is also underway to clarify roles and support available for organisations responsible for managing buildings and community spaces
- ❖ The Communities and Equality Team and Property and Design Team are working collaboratively to support an application for the transfer of a local community space.

Network for Community Workers

- ❖ Two Community Workers Networking events have been held over the course of the year with the aim of bringing front line community workers together to share information and encourage greater collaborative working.

Good practice case studies

- ❖ A number of case studies have been written, summaries of which have been used on the e-learning programme and which are available from the Communities and Equality Team

Training for community representatives

- ❖ Funding has been obtained from Take Part Brighton and Hove to develop training for community representatives in the role of local councillors. The training will be developed in partnership between BHCC Democratic Services and local community training providers.

Widening Engagement

- ❖ The CEF group has created a budget to support local events, projects and activities that will encourage 'wider engagement'. So far, they have supported the Federation of Disabled Peoples Disability Summit.

Communications Plan

- ❖ The SCP has established a Communications Sub Group to lead on the development of a communications plan to promote the SCP, The Community Engagement Framework and opportunities to get involved, in support of the Get Involved campaign