

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

REPORT TO: Halton Strategic Partnership Board
DATE: 18 May 2005
REPORTING OFFICER: Local Authority Chief Executive
SUBJECT: Community Empowerment Network update

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To receive a written report from the Community Empowerment Network.

2. RECOMMENDATION: To note the contents of the report.

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Halton Together update

Halton Together update May 05

Membership of Halton Together has grown from 180 to 292 groups and is still increasing.

A meeting of the health mirror group has been held and an agreement reached that this group will form a steering group for the Health & Community Care Forum. The suggestion will be taken to all members and nominations invited for the steering group and representatives from this group will be elected to serve as reps on the Health Partnership.

A few changes in staffing and roles have occurred since 1st April 05. The network are now prioritising Super Output Areas and focusing their attention on a collaborative/partnership approach to these neighbourhoods. Meetings have been held with several partners and an in depth mapping exercise is ongoing.

Halton Together/HVA

The working group has not met for some time but they will continue to look at legal issues and draft further proposals for submission to membership.

Arts Forum

The planning of the 'Take Part in Halton' event at Norton Priory on Sunday 10th July 05 is well underway. Flyers to advertise the event will be circulated shortly.

Environmental Forum

Applications for funding have been submitted and the bank account is now open. The group are still waiting for the outcome of funding applications.

Faith Forum

The new faith rep on the LSP has now attended one or two meetings so the group will be invited back together to look at a future direction in the next quarter.

Website subgroup

The website is still proving to be a huge success with over 8000 hits to date. The e-newsletter is now being circulated twice monthly with the hardcopy once a month. Partners are still continuing to access this service and evidence is now available to show what a difference it is making.

Family Forum / Children & young peoples forum

The steering group is continuing to meet and plan the future direction of the forum. An official launch of the new forum is planned for September 05.

Access to sports

Childrens sports clubs in both Widnes and Runcorn continue to be very successful.

Disability Alliance

Terms of reference have been adopted by the group and the steering group are now planning an official launch and future direction.

ECDL

ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) sessions have now begun and two sessions per week are being offered.

Widnes base

An official launch of the Widnes site (Age Concern) took place on Monday 13th December. In cooperation with the PPI Forum, a computer is available for use by CVS staff, CEN members and PPI members.