

Third Sector Forum – People

Forum Note

January 23rd 2018

Individual updates/ general discussion

Meld is taking on new peer workers with staff moving into East Lothian to be based in the recovery hub .

Discussion around the increase in drug related deaths and lifesaving Naloxone training. Meld have offered to provide training to other Third Sector practitioners. Both Carers of East Lothian and STRiVE have put on dates for Naloxone Training but take up has been poor.

Targeted marketing , placing it on the agenda at larger events and working alongside organisations who deliver training around challenging topics was suggested by the group.

Digital Access project about to be launched by the Citizens Advice Project in Haddington offering potentially unlimited support to those that require technical assistance (with the aim to help those involved become self-supporting) and offering training to support staff. Referrals via the citizens advice bureau in Haddington.

Feedback and input into planning structure

IJB

Forum heard updates from the delegates attending IJB and IJB attending. Delegate notes are available at <http://strive.me.uk/the-local-structure/>

- Delegates were positive about initial meetings (both attended their first meetings in December) and all recognised there would be a learning curve as delegate settled in to these roles.
- A need for developing the delegate process was voiced by the group including speeding up / removing the process of having to submit minutes to the chairs and looking at expanding the use of slack sector wide. Delegates also noted they could improve their own usage of it.
- The IJB discussed the closure of a ward at Belhaven hospital, community consultation was noted. The group may support the role of delegates/ wider community consultation in the future by encouraging participation in consultations.
- Conversations arose around the new GP contracts and what this means in teams of other practitioners based within GP practices. The forum would like to explore this further and invite those overseeing these developments for further discussion with the group. (HA to investigate further)
- Overspend at the IJB and the absence of reserves for this group were discussed. Delegates are learning more about the implications of this in upcoming meetings
- Many organisations present had had funding reviewed under section 10 and were awaiting outcomes.
- STRiVE and the delegates will be better able to lobby on behalf of the sector if cuts / the extent of these cuts experienced by local organisations are known . Third Sector

organisations are encouraged to let the interface know if their funding is affected by the upcoming budget.

East Lothian Partnership

The delegate for the East Lothian Partnership was present and held discussions around agenda items for the East Lothian Partnership meeting on the 29th/1/18

Restructure of the East Lothian Partnership

Attendees viewed the proposed structure and asked:

- Why there was no Third Sector representation at the highest level and suggested that Third Sector insight would be useful both in a problem solving capacity and as a key delivery agent.
- The size and frequency of the partnership grouping replacing Resilient People, Safe and Vibrant Communities, Sustainable Economy led to questioning of its function. Would the sector really be able to influence at that level or was the purpose of the group just to inform?
- It recognised that it would be essential to have a representative in each of the subgroups but many attendees could not see where their area of work would feed in e.g. Older people, people with brain injuries.

Universal Credit

A presentation on Universal Credit at the ELP meeting was a opportunity for attendees to reflect on their experiences. An excellent report by CAPs was echoed by attendees though it was recognised that Carers were often better off as a result of UC. It was asked what we can do now to improve the situation for claimants and whether any of this can be achieved at a local level.

The delegate will reflect back following the ELP meeting 24.1.18