

Annual Report of the Redbridge Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership 2016-2017



Annual Report of the Redbridge Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership 2016-2017

1. Summary

This report summarises the work undertaken by the Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership (PaVSP) for the year 2016-17. The Partnership is made up of Members from the Council, elected representatives from the voluntary and community sector and nominees from Redbridge Clinical Commissioning Group, the Redbridge Police Service, the North East London Foundation Trust and the Redbridge Fire Service. The key activities for the year focused on the implementation of the Fairness Commission recommendations and changes to local policing structures.

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference of the Partnership, including its membership, are set out in the Council's Constitution.

3. Membership

Redbridge Council:

The Council selects its representatives annually, and this year its Council representatives were:-

London Borough of Redbridge:

Members: Councillors B Littlewood (Vice Chair), F Hussain, B Lambert, M Chaudhary and M Santos

Substitutes: Councillors D Sharma, A Sachs and A Kissin

Voluntary Sector:

The Voluntary sector representatives are elected in a three year cycle. This was the second year in the cycle, with the following representatives representing the voluntary sector:-

Members: John Garlick (Chair), Jon Pushkin, Jon Abrams, Nigel Turner, Rita Chadha

Substitutes: Nicholas Hurst, Sudarshan Bhuhi MBE, Bushra Tahir

NHS Redbridge:

Member: Khalil Ali - Patient and Public Involvement, Redbridge CCG

Substitutes: Louise Mitchell – Chief Operating Officer, Kirsty Boettcher – Joint Commissioning Manager

Metropolitan Police:

Member: Inspector Elise Gellatley

Substitute: None

North East London Foundation Trust:

Member: Maria Thorn

Substitute: Bob Edwards

Redbridge Fire Brigade Police:

Member: Gary Norris

Substitute: Frazer Ferguson – Borough Commander

Administrative and Officer Support was provided during the year by: John Turkson (LBR), Ross Diamond (RedbridgeCVS) and Liz Pearce (RedbridgeCVS).

4. Activities in 2016/17

Meeting on 20th July 2016

The Partnership's annual "Away Day" was held on 20th July 2016 at the Vine Church in Ilford.

The Chiring of the Partnership is rotated each year between the public and voluntary sectors. This year it was the turn of the voluntary sector to Chair the meetings. John Garlick was elected as Chair for 2016/17. Cllr Bob Littlewood was elected Vice Chair (proposed by Cllr Sachs and seconded by Cllr Chaudhary).

Cllr Gurdial Bhamra, Mayor of Redbridge, formally accepted the role of Compact Ambassador for 2016/17. He stressed the great need and importance of partnership working between the sectors.

Swati Vyas, Health Partnerships Manager at RedbridgeCVS, gave a presentation about Social Prescribing, including a range of models and examples currently being delivered elsewhere. All present welcomed the idea of developing a local Social Prescribing scheme.

John Turkson, the Council's Principal Officer for Community Partnerships, gave a presentation about the recent Voluntary Sector Corporate Grants Review. John also talked about 'crowdfunding', including a local scheme (with Spacehive) in which the council is offering to match-fund successful projects. He also informed the meeting that the Council had now appointed an External Fundraising Officer who would liaise RedbridgeCVS' Community Fundraiser.

A draft work plan for 2016/17 was discussed and agreed. There would be three meetings of the Partnership held during the year, with additional work being carried out as necessary.



Meeting on 23rd November 2016

The meeting heard reports and held discussions on the following key items:-

- LBR's response to the Redbridge Fairness Commission 19 recommendations and its 37 current and planned activities arising from the 19 recommendations of the Fairness Commission. These included detailed discussions about:
 - Affordable housing
 - The new Debt Action Working Group
 - An Immigration Task and Finish Group
 - A community-led Domestic Violence project that has now been commissioned
 - The potential for a 'Local Giving Scheme'
 - The development of a local Disability Charter for Commissioning

- A “digital mentoring” scheme (which had not been commissioned, as recommended)



Meeting on 25th January 2017

The meeting heard reports and held discussions on the following key items:-

- Karen Stone from Liberty Credit Union gave a presentation on the work of the Liberty Credit Union. Liberty had been established in 2003 but had only started to work in Redbridge since April 2014, when they started to receive funding from LBR. They have around 3,000 members across the 3 boroughs. Funding from LBR is coming to an end, but Liberty will continue to operate in Redbridge (and seek external funding to help it expand its services locally).
- Cllr Littlewood gave an update on the implementation of the Fairness Commission recommendations – including updates on the Immigration Panel, Debt Action Group and the Disability Charter.
- There was also a discussion about Redbridge Council’s budget setting and consultation process (as the Council was not running an event specifically to discuss this with the voluntary sector this year, in contrast to previous years).



Meeting on 26th April 2017

The meeting heard reports and held discussions on the following key items:-

- Inspector Elise Gellatley gave a presentation about the changes taking place in the Metropolitan Police Service and particularly the pathfinder tri-borough command unit (BCU) which Redbridge is now part of (along with Barking & Dagenham and Havering). There were discussions about the police's community engagement activities and structures. (There were also responses to pre-submitted questions about the use of "spit-hoods" in Redbridge, and in particular, when and how these might be used on people experiencing mental ill-health.)
- Rachel Joseph from ELHAP showed a short film and talked about the work of ELHAP – an adventure playground in Woodford which has been operating for 40 years. Most of the service users are children and young people and most have learning disabilities (most notably, those on the autistic spectrum). ELHAP is planning a major redevelopment of its site and invited all present to an open day on 25th June 2017.
- Sharon Strutt, Head of Regeneration at Redbridge Council, gave a presentation about the Council's 'asset strategy' and its plans for the regeneration of Redbridge's town centres (including Ilford). She talked about the Local Plan (which is subject to an inquiry and which, she hoped, would be implemented from October/November 2017). Sharon also talked about the importance of improving local people's access to relevant skills, training and employment opportunities. She also noted that Redbridge Council is committed to ensuring

that regeneration has benefits for existing residents, as well as providing new homes for people moving into the borough.

- John Turkson, the Council's Principal Officer for Community Partnerships, gave an update on the work of the Council's external funding officer, Spacehive (the crowdfunding platform being supported by Redbridge Council) and the potential for a 'Local Giving' scheme.

