**Notes of the Public & Voluntary Sectors’ Partnership meeting**

**Wednesday 17th January 2018 (5pm-7pm)** **at RedbridgeCVS, 103 Cranbrook Road,**

**Ilford IG1 4PU**

**Present:**

**NELFT:** Maria Thorn (Chair)

**Councillors:** G Bhamra, M Chaudhary

**Redbridge CCG:** Khalil Ali

**Voluntary Sector reps:** John Garlick, Nigel Turner, Jon Pushkin, Nicholas Hurst

**Officers in attendance:** Edith Galliers (LBR), Ross Diamond (RedbridgeCVS – note taker)

1. **Welcome and introductions**

Maria Thorn, chairing the meeting, welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

1. **Apologies and substitutions**

Apologies were received from Bushra Tahir, Jon Abrams, Insp Elise Gellatley and Simon Parker.

1. **Declarations of interest**

The Chair reminded all members in attendance of the requirement to consider whether they have an interest in any matter on the agenda that needs to be disclosed and, if so, to declare an interest when the panel reaches that item on the agenda.

1. **Minutes of the meeting held 23 November 2017**
   1. Accuracy

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

* 1. Matters Arising

All actions had been undertaken.

Edith reported that liaison with Spacehive had improved recently.

Edith reported that LBR is doing a cumulative impact assessment of its own work and how this affects people with disabilities. This does not include an impact assessment of other changes (eg national benefits programmes etc).

Edith said that invitations to the Fairness Commission event were currently being drafted. This would review and celebrate the positive actions that had taken place following the Commission’s recommendations.

Edith said that the Council’s work on social value was developing further, since the last PaVSP meeting, and she expected some positive outcomes from the forthcoming Day Opportunities review.

1. **Homelessness and the voluntary sector**

Captain John Clifton of the Salvation Army gave a presentation on the Salvation Army’s response to homelessness locally. The Salvation Army has operated in Clements Road Ilford since 1904. They have run a winter night-shelter there since 2011. During this time they have noticed that the same individuals often return for their help each winter, and their health has often deteriorated noticeably during that time, and the number of rough sleepers counted in Redbridge had also gone up from 18 to 60 by 2016. As a result, the Salvation Army established a social enterprise, “Recycles” to help homeless people learn skills that can help them into paid employment. 42 of those counted as rough sleepers were people with “no recourse to public funds” (because of their immigration status) and 36 of these have been living on the streets for over 2 years. They now believe that there are 65 rough sleepers in the area, with 29 of these being EU nationals, 20 coming from outside Europe and 16 being UK citizens. 4 rough sleepers died locally this winter.

In response to these issues, the Salvation Army have worked with RAMFEL (and other local faith communities) to develop “Project Malachi” which aims to provide a local housing scheme for rough sleepers. Both the local Labour and Conservative parties have been supportive of the scheme and LBR have now agreed to allow the site of the former funeral directors building on Chadwick Road to be used at a ‘peppercorn’ rent for 5 years. This will be a temporary hostel built from prefabricated units which will be put onto the site and then removed after 5 years for use elsewhere. There will be beds for 40 people in self-contained units each with a bed, shower, toilet and cooking facilities. “Recycles” will also be based on the same site. 32 of the spaces will be rented by LBR for use instead of B&Bs. The service will include 2.5 hours of casework per week to each resident to help them resolve underlying issues and be able to move on to permanent addresses. The other 8 spaces will be for people with no recourse to public funds and which will be funded via charitable funds. They will work closely with RAMFEL and the Welcome Centre (who will be able to refer clients and provide support). They are now waiting on planning permission and hope to open in August 2018.

Nicholas queried whether the hostel might attract more homeless people to Redbridge but John said that they would only provide services to people known to have local connections (and they already know most of the potential service users).

Jon Pushkin outlined the “community fridge” idea (where local people leave food in a fridge for people in need to take). Ross said that this had come up in the LBR work on Food Poverty that had been undertaken recently. He also said that there were discussions of a possible Community Kitchen that could be used by people who don’t have adequate cooking facilities at home, in the new Ilford town centre developments. In response to questions John confirmed that local supermarkets do provide food for their work and foodbanks and said that he is meeting with the Ilford BID (“business improvement district”) later in the week to discuss how local business can be even more supportive.

1. **East London Health and Care Partnership**

Ian Tomkins of the East London Health and Care Partnership (ELHCP) attended to give the meeting an update of the work of the ELHCP. This had originally been established to develop the East London Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP) which wanted to express how the local NHS structures and their partners (local councils, the voluntary and private sectors etc.,) could deliver the NHS “5 Year Forward View”. The STPs nationally were perceived as secretive and vehicles for planning cuts etc., which Ian said was never their intention. They have changed significantly, however, and the ELHCP now covers 8 boroughs and a wide range of organisations. They aim to help meet the huge local challenges facing East London, including:

* A growing – and ageing – population
* A shortage of appropriate staff (for health and social care)
* Expensive housing (exacerbating problems with recruiting and retaining the necessary workforce).

Ian noted that NHS funds are increasing, but not enough to keep pace with increasing needs – and Social Care funding is actually decreasing. He said that the 8 borough ELHCP includes a range of Councils and NHS structures with different cultures and styles of working. The ELHCP is still building partnerships and is also exploring sub-regional Accountable Care Systems to find solutions that meet geographical patterns. Some issues can best be addressed at the East London scale, whereas others need to be resolved more locally. He noted that Public Health funding was in short supply, so it made sense for PH departments to work closely together to address common needs. He said that urgent and emergency care services needed reviewing and improving, and noted that many Redbridge residents use NHS services provided at Whipps Cross by the Barts’ Trust - and not just those provided by BHR Trust. Ian said that income from NHS land sales goes central government, though he hoped this might change in the future. (Nicholas noted that Foundation Trusts, such as NELFT could keep the proceeds of land sales, but directly manages bodies such as BHRUT could not.) Ian also noted that the NHS cannot borrow (in the way that Local Councils can). He said that record sharing was starting across NHS structures which would help for those residents who may use services from more than one Trust.

Ian said that ELHCP is looking at health determinants, including housing, education and employment, and are keen to ensure that prevention of illness is prioritised and delivered in joined-up ways. They are also keen to promote greater “self-care”. Nigel said this had to be clearly distinct from possible efforts to run down NHS services to the point of collapse so that a new model might be put in its place.

Ian said ELCHP has now commissioned a new and improved “111” telephone service. He said that ELHCP hasn’t engaged widely yet, but is now ready to start engaging with partners and the community to help shape its work. He would be meeting with RedbridgeCVS and other CVSs and voluntary organisations from East London later in the week to discuss ways they can work better together.

Khalil Ali noted that the 7 local CCGs have jointly appointed an Accountable Care Officer – Jane Milligan, and that Social Prescribing is now being developed in Redbridge.

1. **PaVSP Work Plan**

The final meeting of the year would take place in March. It was agreed that Work Redbridge, Community Cohesion and Volunteers Awards would be the key topics for discussion*.* **Action: Ross to invite relevant speakers and agree agenda with the Chair.**

1. **Any Other Urgent Business**
   1. Edith noted that a series of events under the banner of “Innovating Redbridge” would take place in late February and early March to look at neighbourhoods, assets, social action, community cohesion etc., with a mix of events and speakers from Redbridge and beyond.
   2. John Garlick noted that there was no specific voluntary sector budget consultation event again this year. Edith said that there had been specific engagement on key issues, eg Day Opportunities, and that there is a generic budget consultation process. Cllr Bhamra encouraged people to attend the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee meeting on 29th January.
   3. Jon Pushkin asked for a list of Council committees and Edith said the new structure is available on the Councils website. There are five Scrutiny Committees, (“People”, “Place”, “Strategy and Resources”, “Health” and “Overview”). These are open to the public and are a good way to hear early information about planned changes.

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