

Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board (AHWB)

Partner Quarterly Update for the Voluntary Sector – Quarter 1: April to June 2016

<p>What's going on in our world</p>	<p>The Voluntary Sector Rep, Ashford Volunteer Centre and Red Zebra held the first of what is hoped to be quarterly network meeting at the Council Chamber on 23rd June. It was well attended with 32 people attending from 25 different organisations. It is hoped that these events will be held on a quarterly basis in order to not only feedback information to the HWBB Rep but to share information on a far wider basis. The next meeting is scheduled for late September</p>
<p>Success stories since last AHWB</p>	<p>A new Community Group called Dynamic Health and Well Being have applied to Big Lottery Awards for All to run a project delivering health-related activities to encourage, educate and empower young people to adopt positive healthy lifestyles and behaviours. There will be 10 sessions available each with a separate theme including (relating to board priorities) one on smoking and one on healthy eating. Feedback from the lottery funding officer has been positive and it seems likely funding will be awarded for this project.</p>
<p>What we are focusing on for the next quarter <u>specific to the key projects</u></p>	<p>Encouraging more Ashford voluntary Sector organisations running services that relate to priorities to feed into the Health & Well Being Board agenda.</p>
<p>Anything else relevant to AHWB priorities NOT mentioned above</p>	
<p>Strategic challenges & risks including horizon scanning?</p>	<p>At the network meeting many organisations stated that they were finding it difficult to recruit volunteers without whom they cannot effectively provide services for people in Ashford. Work needs to be done to find a more effective way of matching volunteering opportunities with volunteers. KCC are likely to put Voluntary Sector and Volunteering out to tender under the same contract later this year which is likely to impact on the support available to the sector in Ashford</p>
<p>Any thing else the Board needs to know</p>	<p>The Voluntary Sector rep has been involved with the Task and Finish group set up to look at Obesity and Smoking in Ashford and will feed back to Voluntary Sector partners once the final report has been completed.</p>
<p>Signed & dated</p>	<p>Caroline Harris Michael James 4th July 2016</p>