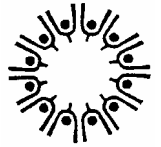


HARROW ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE



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REPORT FOR HARROW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING **16th June 2005 ON CHANGEUP**

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the progress of the ChangeUp plans in Harrow.

Government Office London requires each London Borough and sub Regional Council for voluntary service (the generic name for organisations like HAVS) to develop an infrastructure plan for their area. The structure of the plan is prescribed and is detailed in an earlier report to the Board.

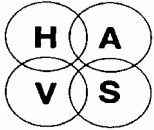
In Harrow, a Steering Group administered by HAVS has been meeting since January. This group consists of eighteen people, many of them members of voluntary and community sector groups in Harrow plus representatives from Harrow Council and Harrow Primary Care Trust. The group has developed a draft plan which has been accepted by the London ChangeUp consortium and is now in the process of looking at draft plan which needs to be ready before 1st July 2005. The primary purpose of the proposal is to enable each Borough group to draw down the first instalment of two for ChangeUp funding. At present the amount allocated to Harrow is around £42,000 and this needs to be spent through HAVS by June 2006.

Copies of the draft plan are available through Julia at HAVS.

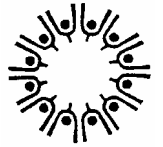
A present work is underway to look at mapping voluntary and community sector organisations in the area, analysing their areas of interest and their most pressing issues. To date, responses from the respondents plus members of the ChangeUp group suggest that the following are priorities.

NB, these are not mutually exclusive and could be filled by a combination of part- time, full-time and/or consultancy work.

- Post to advise on income generation and social enterprise plus sustainability
- Worker to help develop policies particularly around IT and Human Resources.
- Post to strengthen relationships between the Council, Primary Care Trust and other statutory agencies and the voluntary sector – awareness training for both sectors
- Training and support for users and reps in terms of participation and attendance at events.
- Post to identify premises and ways of working collaboratively to reduce costs



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- Post to look at infrastructure needs particularly around BMER organisations.
- Development of website for the voluntary sector to use an on-line discussion forum. sharing best practice and performance tools.
- Workshops to consult with BMER groups about their needs, culminating in development of an action plan to move this forward
- Arrange conference on topics that can discuss solutions as to how key statutory stakeholders can facilitate the improvement of infrastructure in the voluntary and community sector organisations
- Use some of the funds to develop training around time management, financial planning etc. (in conjunction with TIDE).
- Community accountancy advice

The final plan which at the present needs to be prepared before October 2005 will need to fit in with the sub-regional and London plan. It will also need to be approved by the HSP Board. Further reports will be brought to the Board as work progresses.

Julia Smith
6 May 2005

ChangeUp060505