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Third Sector Update Report

From: Eleanor Campbell (Third Sector Representative)
To: North Area Local Area Partnership Members
Date: Activity to September 2014 included in report

1.0 LOCAL VOLUNTARY SECTOR ACTIVITY UPDATE

1.1 Overview of the Voluntary Sector in the North Area ☺

A representative of Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (local Third Sector Interface) will attend the North Area Local Area Partnership meeting of Thursday 23 October 2014 to provide a brief overview of the voluntary sector in the local area for Local Area Partnership members. Key information about a Third Sector Community Planning Improvement Programme in North Lanarkshire will also be communicated.

1.2 Cumbernauld and North Area Voluntary Sector Locality Network ☺

Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire facilitated its latest round of six Voluntary Sector Locality Network Events on behalf of North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group during August-September 2014.

A Cumbernauld and North Area Voluntary Sector Locality Network Event took place on Friday 29 August 2014 at Cumbernauld New Town Hall. The Event was attended by 54 delegates, consisting mainly of volunteers, members of voluntary sector organisations, and other key partners in the community.

The following information sessions / discussion items were hosted at the Event:

- ◆ Spotlight on Third Sector Community Planning Improvement Programme in North Lanarkshire *(by Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire)*
- ◆ Update on Community Planning activity in the Cumbernauld and North locality *(by Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire and North Lanarkshire Council)*
- ◆ Third Sector progress in relation to the Reshaping Care for Older People Change Plan *(by CACE Older People Active Lives, Equals Advocacy Partnership, North Lanarkshire Leisure and Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire)*
- ◆ A range of short presentations / information sessions delivered by voluntary sector organisations and community partners
- ◆ Key information update for voluntary sector organisations and volunteers *(by Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire).*

The Networks continue to provide a valuable information sharing and networking opportunity for the local voluntary sector, with positive feedback received from the sizeable number of voluntary sector organisations and volunteers who attend. A full report of this Event can be downloaded by visiting www.voluntaryactionnorthlanarkshire.org.uk/EventsLocality.html.

1.3 Volunteering Success at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games ☺

Over 200 North Lanarkshire volunteers helped make the Triathlon and Cycling Time Trial at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games a huge success by supporting North Lanarkshire Council's event facilitation.

The Council volunteers, who were recruited locally to work alongside the Games 'Clydesiders' at the events hosted in North Lanarkshire, assisted over three days (24, 26, and 31 July 2014) at Strathclyde Country Park and in the Northern Corridor. Key roles undertaken by the >>

volunteers included various stewarding and spectator support tasks, location and volunteer coordination, and family activity support.

Spectators reported how helpful, courteous and friendly the team of Council volunteers were, with the North Lanarkshire events recognised as amongst the most colourful and successful of the entire Games. A host of testimonials since the Games have highlighted just how enjoyable and valuable the volunteering experience was for the Council volunteers.

A total of 15,000 Clydesider volunteers helped make the Games an unforgettable success across Glasgow during July-August 2014. Those local citizens inspired to volunteer or continue volunteering as a result of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games have been encouraged to contact Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire, where Volunteering Development Advisers are on hand to offer relevant support and guidance.

2.0 VOLUNTARY SECTOR ACTIVITY WITHIN COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE

2.1 North Area Get Involved in Local Community Planning Event ☺

North Lanarkshire Council, Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire, and Third Sector Representatives on Local Area Partnerships are hosting a special North Area Get Involved in Local Community Planning: The Voluntary Sector Making a Contribution Event for voluntary sector delegates on Thursday 6 November 2014 from 1.30pm-4.00pm (venue to be confirmed).

The purpose of the Event is to provide an opportunity for local voluntary sector organisations and volunteers to discuss local issues and identify opportunities for the voluntary sector to make a contribution to the North Area Local Area Action Plan on an ongoing basis. Voluntary sector delegates can book places on this Event by contacting Craig Russell at Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire on 01236 748011 or via e-mail at craig.russell@vanl.co.uk.

2.2 Third Sector Representation on Local Area Partnership from 2015-17 ☺

A Third Sector Representative is appointed to the North Area Local Area Partnership on a two-year cyclical period. The current representation cycle will end on Tuesday 31 March 2015, with a transparent nomination and ballot process to appoint a Third Sector Representative for the period Wednesday 1 April 2015 to Friday 31 March 2017 scheduled to commence in January 2015. It is permissible for the current Third Sector Representative to be reappointed for a further term.

The nomination and ballot process will be facilitated by Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire on behalf of North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group. For further information, please contact Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire on 01236 748011.