

# TELFORD & WREKIN INFRASTRUCTURE CONSORTIUM

## MINUTES 13.11.09

### Present

Mick Lloyd  
Pete Beer  
Bev Harris  
Karen Roper

### Apologies

Ella Sips  
Diane Cuff

#### 1. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

### Presentation from Anna Hrabowekyj RAWM (Regional Action West Midlands)

Anna has a background in training and in the voluntary sector. Her post is funded until 2011 and her work includes three main themes;

- Developing the Website (Improving support)
- Resilience Planning
- RAWM IDP (Infrastructure Development Program)

### Website Development

This is available at [www.improvingsupport.org.uk](http://www.improvingsupport.org.uk)

This site is a resource gateway and organisations can put good practice guides any learning and can also voice concerns.

There are 23 pages with a page for each region each with their own manager

Anna is the manager for the West Midlands

There are a range of topics

Any support provider can send entries to Anna [annah@rawm.co.uk](mailto:annah@rawm.co.uk)

0121 449 4408

Consortium members can register

## **Resilience Planning**

This theme is to support the sector survive and thrive through the recession by establishing;

Front Line need

Consortia own needs

Infrastructure Development Program

RAWM and DWM have merged and their role is to look for;

Funding

Policy

Collaborative Working

## **Planning of Joint VC Forum and Consortium event**

The agenda was agreed as follows:

10:00 Welcome from Mick. House keeping and brief plan of the morning

10:05 Hazel Remeika Co-operative funding

10:45 Mick presentation- background to the consortium and introduction of members

10:50 Ella presentation – What the consortium has done

11:00 Coffee and comfort break

11:10 Consultation exercise. Breaking into 4 thematic groups;

Accountability/Democracy

How can other organisations influence the direction of the consortium?

How can other organisations feed into the key priority areas?

(Reference Group who wants to be involved)

How can the consortium demonstrate its effectiveness? (Monitoring)

11:40 Plenary to bring out core themes and questions

12:30 – 1:00 Lunch

The 4 groups will be facilitated by the development team members. Bev and Ella to discuss specific questions and methods.

Invitations will go out to all of our relevant networks and stakeholders which will include

All CVS affiliates

Parish Councillors

TRED Partners  
Local Councillors

Each consortium member can put up a display on their specific role within the sector.

### **Volunteer Centre Sharing with Consortium 13<sup>th</sup> November**

Going for Matrix re-accreditation in March

Had some training for the Volunteer England Quality Manager along with Oswestry and Community Council of Shropshire for the accreditation. We will go through this in September 2010. Oswestry and Shrewsbury to put in a joint entry.

From the West Mids the EVDCWM

Have an action plan and are able to give a west mid overview to Government Office. This is particularly important as LA's and government office do not have a consistent way of collecting data on volunteering. So Government Office can use our AMR for quantitative evidence. This evidence is also useful to work with LA's on N16 and Local Area agreements.

EVDC have produced a report with a number of recommendations and have recently submitted it to Government Office. They will respond shortly.

EVDC have been asked to provide a framework of evidence. They have proposed a program of work with three themes;

Impact of the Recession

Looking at the 14 recommendations with Local Authorities

Promotion of volunteering

I representing the West Mids VC network on the RAWM 2012 strategy and will be advocating that other volunteer centre endorse the strategy. I am also attending another sports event on Tuesday night organized by Clive Knight for T& W Council and Matt Kendall from RAWM.

We are experiencing increased number of clients within the volunteer centre who have been referred inappropriately to the volunteer centre and have been given incorrect information on the volunteering they are allowed to do whilst claiming benefits. Also evidence is emerging that the sector is experiencing inappropriate referrals. I have emailed Kairen Francis for Job Centre Plus and will be taking this up with Job Centre Mangers.

