

Out and about with SAVS



Every day I am attending meetings to represent the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Southend. In order to keep our members up to date with what is going on I am producing a monthly report which gives information about which meetings I have attended, their purpose and key points of note to the VCS. Some of the information will be relevant to you and I hope it will all be of interest. If you want further information about any of the meetings or have something to contribute please contact me on 01702 356001 or asemmence@savs-southend.co.uk. I would love to hear from you.

Unless stated otherwise all the meetings are attended by me. However some meetings are attended by other members of staff. If you are attending any strategic meetings to represent the VCS it would be great if you could share this with us so we can include in this report.

Meetings attended March

Southend Safeguarding Adults Board

Purpose

The Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) is a statutory body created under the Care Act 2014. The main objective is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in its area who:

- have needs for care and support, and;
- are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and;
- as a result of those care and support needs are unable to protect them from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Points to note

- The board is looking for a lay member to represent the community voice - please see <http://www.safeguardingsouthend.co.uk/adults/downloads.html>
- The annual report was approved and can be viewed at the above link.
- We had an update of the MARAT - see my January meeting report - It is intended that the MARAT will be operational from 4.4.16. Initially the MARAT will focus on high-level domestic abuse, phasing in the other aspects of work over its first year of operation.
- Appropriate Adults - the Executive has been tasked with exploring whether appropriate adults are being used as and when required following a national report which identified in some parts of the country this was not happening.
- The independent Chair will be stepping down after the next meeting and the post will be advertised - in conjunction with the position on the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Next steps

Next meeting will be in June - the Exec will be in April. If anyone has any

particular safeguarding issues (not individual issues) that should be drawn to our attention please let me know.

SHIP Content Group

Purpose

This meeting is an operational meeting to make sure that the SHIP website which is owned by Southend Borough Council is working. The SHIP website is a directory of service in Southend. The group is made up of various council departments and SAVS.

Points to note

- Meeting was very quick 10mins!!
- The current person responsible is leaving at end of March
- Due to recruit part time admin who will pick up SHIP shortly

Next steps

Meetings are to be put on hold until new person comes into post.

Attended by Dan Turpin

Multi Lingual Group

Purpose

To support speakers with English as a second language in Southend - The group is mainly made up of South Essex Homes Staff and Residents.

Points to note

- This group has set up a drop in session at The Hub in Victoria Shopping Centre in the 1st Friday of every month between 3-5pm.
- The group uses a web based programme called English My Way to assess whether a learner needs additional support before an ESOL Class

Next steps

This groups needs support with Terms of Reference after that SAVS will step away from the group.

Attended by Dan Turpin

Difference and Diversity

Purpose

The meeting is made up of Southend Borough Council Staff, representatives for Schools, Essex Police and Voluntary sector organisations. The Group meet quarterly to look at diversity programmes in Southend Schools. The group manages a project called the Equality and Diversity champions award which is offered to a limited number of schools each academic year.

Points to note

- Some work is being done to strengthen the Religious Education Programme in schools including British Values
- A lot of work in progress to start up peer support programmes for LGBT students.

Next steps

Attended by Dan Turpin

Southend LSCB and SAB Community Sub Group

Purpose

This is a sub group of The Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) the group carries out specific pieces of community work.

Points to note

- Increase in Self Harm amongst children and adults. Sharing of guidelines, good practice and toolkits
- Soroptimists - Stop the Traffic Box with a child exploitation theme to be located near Kursaal and Police Office on seafront
- As part of Trafficking and modern slavery work - Members of the Border Agency from Southend Airport attended meeting and will continue to be part of the group they deal with passengers with all types of vulnerabilities on a regular.
- Hoarding Protocol in Draft Form

Next steps

Launch of Keep Safe Scheme

Attended by Anthony Quinn