

**Harrow Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) Forum  
 Ordinary Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019, 10am to 12pm  
 North Harrow Community Library (NHCL), 429-433 Pinner Rd, Harrow, HA1 4HN**

<b>Attendance:</b>				
<b>Attendee</b>	abbreviation in minutes	<b>Organisation</b>	abbreviation in minutes	<b>Forum Role</b>
Gerry Devine	GD	Harrow Community Transport	HCT	Vice-Chair
Tajinder Nijjar	TN	Citizens Advice Harrow	CAH	VCS Representative
Glen Hearden	GH	Signature Housing	SH	VCS Representative
John Higgins	JH	Harrow VCS Forum	HVCSF	Cabinet Representative
Alex Buckmire	AB	Voluntary Action Harrow Co-operative	VAHC	Minute Taker
Linda Robinson	LR	38 Degrees (Harrow Local Group)	38D	
Julian Maw	JM	Hatch End Association	HEA	
Jan Irwin	JI	Harrow Domestic & Sexual Violence Forum	HDSVF	
Krishna Suresh	KS	Harrow Council	HC	
Sue Anderson	SA	Harrow Council	HC	
Jean Lammiman	JL	Harrow Council	HC	
Farah Ikhram	FI	Harrow Council	HC	
Scott Monant	SM	Metropolitan Police	MP	

<b>Apologies:</b>				
Kathy Westhead	KW	Harrow U3A	HU3A	
Sasi Suresh	SS	Harrow Council	HC	
Ray Barber	RB	St Albans Parish	SAP	
Varsha Dodhia	VD	Harrow Interfaith	HI	
Bill Phillips	BP	Harrow Association Of Disabled People	HAD	

Item	Minutes	Action by whom	Action by when
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>1.1 GD welcomed all. Apologies had been received as listed above. No conflicts of interest were declared in relation to the agenda topics. GD established that all were happy with the agenda's content and sequence.</p>		
2.	<p><b>Domestic Violence</b></p> <p>2.1 JI and FI gave a presentation on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Presentation: Community Safety and Domestic Abuse [.pdf]</a></li> </ul> <p>2.2 The presentation gave an overview of the community safety and domestic abuse, the local landscape, and services available.</p> <p>2.3 JI stated the importance for resources to be invested into helping the victim as well as perpetrator services. FI added the Spending Review would demonstrate what extra resources could be available. GH stated community housing development could be a potential resource to help support this.</p> <p>2.4 FI communicated that the London Assembly is looking at a London Perpetrator Register for repeat perpetrators.</p>		
3.	<p><b>Community Safety</b></p> <p>3.1 SM gave a brief introduction to his role with the MP and the work that he does. The local police force is currently covering Harrow, Brent, and Barnet.</p> <p>3.2 SM suggested social media aggravates situations by creating inaccurate details creating fears and anxieties. SM gave the example of the narrative around knife crime which, whilst has slightly increased, is fairly inaccurate. AB asked what VCS groups could do to inform the community. SM informing the community to be patient for updates about certain situations could be effective.</p> <p>3.3 SM stressed the importance of protecting assets is important. Making homes safe and using a common sense approach to protecting personal assets.</p> <p>3.4 JI suggested that sometimes victimless prosecutions can sometimes be more harmful to the victim. SM stated in domestic violence cases this is judged on a proportion basis. In knife crime cases, the identity of the person giving the account is completely confidential.</p>		

	<p><b>3.5</b> GD asked why domestic violence was quite a high statistic in some Harrow wards. SM was unsure however could be how the statistics are calculated. JI stated whilst the statistics might be low in domestic violence to other boroughs, it is a high proportion of crime in Harrow. TN added this is only reported crime and there is more likely to be more. FI stated this is not only couples and could include a multitude of issues.</p> <p><b>3.6</b> KS thanked volunteers for being an asset to the community. The importance of working together is the key to keeping Harrow one of the safest boroughs in London.</p>		
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Harrow Community Partnership Update</b></p> <p><b>4.1</b> JH suggested the Cabinet Role I progressing well. The Council are working on ways how more can be discussed before Cabinet.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> LR asked why a Council Tax Support Scheme review wasn't being consulted on.</p> <p><b>Action: JH to follow up on the Council Tax Support Scheme Review</b></p>	<b>JH</b>	<b>July Cabinet Meeting</b>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>VCS Update From Members</b></p> <p><b>5.1</b> AB membership is being updated.</p> <p><b>5.2</b> JM confirmed the Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group is not in special measures</p> <p><b>5.3</b> The Harrow VCS Forum Board are re-organising the quarterly leader's meetings.</p> <p><b>5.4</b> GD confirmed the Harrow VCS Forum have a bank account.</p>		
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2018</b></p> <p><b>6.1</b> Accuracy – The minutes were approved as correct, subject to the following corrections being made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Dual-man whole covers' to 'dual manhole covers'.</li> <li>• Dave Corby's position to be changed to 'Head of Service – Community Engagement'</li> </ul> <p><b>6.2</b> Matters Arising – All had been covered.</p> <p><b>6.3</b> TN got a response from Sally (Consultant in Harrow Council Public Health):</p>		

	<p><i>“As you are aware there are developments around social prescribing across Harrow.</i></p> <p><i>I wanted to write to keep you updated as this develops.</i></p> <p><i>As you are aware, we are working in partnership with the CCG and have been developing a proposal to have a Harrow-wide social prescribing offer, with one-year’s funding from public health to provide infrastructure of a Harrow-wide digital solution and a coordinating role, and bringing in the link workers (that the PCNs [Primary Care Network] will receive funding from NHS England for) into a Harrow-wide approach. In this proposal the digital solution would provide a comprehensive Harrow-wide directory of services as well as a client database that could provide reports back to the PCNs and other stakeholders on uptake and outcomes. The link workers would have a geographical base within the PCN.</i></p> <p><i>Over the course of the first year we would monitor and evaluate carefully to determine impact and outcomes, and to inform the approach following this first “proof of concept” year.</i></p> <p><i>However we are currently in a position where we don’t yet have clarity regarding what the PCNs will want to do.”</i></p>		
7.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>7.1 CAH is providing advice on Universal Credit. They are encouraging people to phone the national phone line (0800 328 5644). CAH can provide some computers in community centres for the sole purpose of applying for Universal Credit.</p>		
8.	<p><b>Next meeting</b></p> <p><b>Harrow VCS Forum Meeting &amp; Annual General Meeting (AGM)</b>  <b>Topic:</b> Community Resilience  <b>Date:</b> Tuesday, 2nd July 2019  <b>Time:</b> 6pm to 8pm  <b>Venue:</b> NHCL, 429-433 Pinner Rd, Harrow, HA1 4HN  <b>Booking:</b> <a href="https://goo.gl/forms/McqceoAmOuNCigkG3">https://goo.gl/forms/McqceoAmOuNCigkG3</a></p>		
	Meeting closed at 12.15pm		