



Hammersmith and Fulham Advice Forum

Minutes

22 June 2016, 2pm – 4pm

Copies and attachments to the minutes are held on the Advice Station website

Venue: Hammersmith Town Hall, London W6 9JU

Attendees:

Carly Thomas	Shelter
Clare Hughes-Cross	St Mungos
Colin Morris	DWP
Councillor Sue Fennimore	Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion
Doreen Taggart	Action on Disability
Jay Shah	Maggies Cancer Centres
Kam Babrah	DWP
Kate RenshawHF	Foodbank
Katherine Green	Crosslight
Liban Muse	Lido Foundation
Malgosia Pakulska	EEAC (East European Advice Centre)
Mandy Goodall	HF Law Centre
Margaret Magnusson	HF CAB
Mary Godwin	Healthier Homes Project
Pam Sedgwick	Staying First
Pam Wharfe	LBHF
Panny Livadas	SBHG / Staying First
Patricia Williams	Hestia
Paul Rosenberg	LBHF
Reshma Begum	Hestia Housing and Support
Sara Thomas	Crosslight
Shad Haibatan	SOBUS
Zahra Beg	LBHF Housing Options

1. Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

No comments or amendments to the minutes of the last meeting.

2. Third Sector Review

Pam Wharfe, Programme Manager Third Sector Review, LBH&F gave an overview of the review and spoke about the work carried out to date.

Pam has produced a draft report which is currently being reviewed. It is hoped that a final report will be available in a few weeks.

Pam's presentation is held with these minutes.

SOBUS had sent out a survey to third sector organisations to gather views. Many attendees had not received this survey. The survey has been re-opened and can be accessed via this link

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FNK9HFJ>

The survey will close on Thursday 30 June.

3. Roundtable discussion and update

- Crosslight will be running a series of budgeting workshops from July. Anyone can attend. The workshops will be useful for anyone moving on to UC.
- HF CAB will be running six workshops over the next twelve weeks at Avonmore Library where residents can drop in and learn more about how they will be affected by UC.
- Staying First will be starting their new service from the DEBK premises on Dawes Road in mid July. They will offer debt and welfare benefit advice to clients in the Fulham area. Clients can drop in or be referred.
- Maggie's Centre has drop in advice for anyone affected by cancer; this includes friends and family. Online support also available.
- SOBUS ran a small grants scheme (from CCG) awarding £15k to organisations for one year. They are hopeful that they may be able to run this again.
- H&F Funders Fair is on 13 July.
- Housing Options – Mike England has left LBHF: there will be a new director starting in August 2016.
- Advice Strategy – a management group has been set up to take this forward. The first meeting will be in September. A hackathon was suggested to start the process but attendees were not keen on the idea.

4. Universal Credit

Presentation on Universal Credit, the full service was delivered by Kam Babrah with Colin Morris from the DWP.

I am not permitted to cascade the presentation as it is being constantly updated. Instead I have attached the following with the minutes:

- A general Universal Credit presentation that is used for training
- Examples of migration triggers (claimant moves from legacy benefits to UC)
- Tier 1 and 2 cases for the Alternative Payment Arrangements (APA).

We spoke about the Universal Credit partnership tool kit online. This is constantly updated so is a useful resource. Here's the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/universal-credit-toolkit-for-partner-organisations>

There is a You Tube link for the Universal Credit video from the DWP:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Km4IXfVJB1n8SQUmkJD0Q>

Kam took away some questions and will send their responses to MG for circulation.

5. Advice Forum meetings – agenda suggestions, pressing concerns and AOB

Meeting ran a little late. There was talk of having a fundraising topic for the next meeting. The EU referendum on 23 June voted BREXIT and this may affect the agenda for September.

6. Date of next meeting

15 September 2016. The meeting will be held between 2pm and 4pm at H&F Town Hall.