



Fairness & Equalities Board

Notes of the meeting held on 5 March, 2015

Present: Dianne Willcocks (Chair), Rita Sanderson, Tony Lindsay, Shaun Rafferty, Carole Zagrovik, Cllr. Lindsay Cunningham, Sue Holden, Marije Davidson, Lukas Njenga, Sian Balsom, Harkirit Boparai, Julie Hotchkiss.

In attendance: Charlie Croft, Will Boardman, Tracy Wallis, Kay Bailey.

Apologies: Emma Wilkins, Tracey Walters, Angela Darlington, Peter Hart.

1.	<p>Welcome and introductions:</p> <p>Tony Lindsay, Sian Balsom, Harkirit Boparai, Julie Hotchkiss were welcomed to their first meeting. The new members will be asked to do an update on issues in their areas at future meetings.</p> <p>Lukas Njenga informed the board that, as his work would now be taking him to Glasgow, he had to tender his resignation.</p>	CDC
2.	<p>Notes of the 9 December meeting and matters arising:</p> <p>Phil Witcherley will be invited to the next board meeting to talk about work on the Living Wage and “beyond the Living Wage”.</p> <p>Sue Holden reported on action research being carried out by Leeds University in partnership with JRF on the impact of “anchor” employers with respect to the living wage.</p>	CDC
3.	<p>Equality Plan - ‘A Fairer York’:</p> <p>Will Boardman gave an update on progress with the ‘Fairer York’ Plan and the development of a comms. plan. Following consultation with the Equalities Advisory Group and others it is proposed that the presentation of the plan is built around the voices of representatives of the communities of identity addressing two questions: “What does a ‘Fairer York’ mean to you?” and “What are you going to do in response?” The purpose will be to create a call to arms, especially to those who</p>	

	<p>in the city not currently engaged in this agenda.</p> <p>In discussion it was noted that it will also be important to capture existing commitments and activities and the impact they are having rather than to give the impression that everything in the plan is new.</p> <p>The board discussed accountability and the need to make sure that any pledges of action are delivered. It was noted that there will also be detailed action plans behind the plan with accountability for delivery and monitoring systems.</p> <p>We anticipate a launch in late May. The work will be tied in with the Welcoming City task group.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Health Inequalities:</p> <p>Julie Hotchkiss introduced the discussion noting that health inequalities are frequently the result of social and economic factors, and asking the board to consider what they could do as a board to address such factors.</p> <p>Loneliness and social isolation: Tracy Wallis introduced the draft brief noting that the city has been commended for including this priority in its Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The board agreed that this would be a topic worth pursuing, following up work previously undertaken on a locality basis to look more broadly across communities.</p> <p>In discussion it was noted that it may be helpful to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Markers of loneliness that might be picked up by community based workers such as district nurses and where this intelligence might be fed back to • Engaging the CCG with particular regard to social prescribing • The role of technology as potentially both an inhibitor and a facilitator of loneliness <p>Healthy Behaviours: Julie Hotchkiss introduced this topic placing a focus on the need for greater local understanding of the data concerning unhealthy behaviours and what behaviours particular communities want to address, as well as how well particular services meet the needs of people from the various protected characteristics.</p>	

	<p>In discussion the board raised points concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of engaging people in positive conversations about health, avoiding the risk of increasing stigmatisation and labelling • The need for caution with regard to trying to quantify issues within particular communities of identity: the board does not have the resources to pursue this. It may be more productive to focus on helping people to access appropriate support • The potential to look at the effectiveness of the CCG's interventions • The need to look at whole communities, how to build healthier communities tackling the factors that prevent healthy lives <p>It was agreed that further discussion would take place outside the meeting to define the board's role in this topic.</p>	DW
5.	<p>Update on review of membership: The paper was noted. It was further noted that there has been no nomination from the business sector. Tony Lindsay undertook to raise this on the board's behalf with the Chamber of Commerce at his forthcoming meeting.</p>	TL
6.	<p>Welcoming City Update:</p> <p>Kay Bailey reported back on the work of the sub-group against the action plan. A template for capturing good practice was circulated (attached) inviting board members to feed in to the web based resource / end of project report the sub-group is hoping to develop.</p>	
7.	<p>Update on York@Large: Chris Bailey, chair of York@Large gave a presentation, based on the slides attached, regarding York@Large's work to bring together partners from across the sector to create a cultural strategy for the city. Chris highlighted the cultural commissioning project looking to engage the CCG and the Hospital Trust in commissioning culture, the partnership's work around projecting the idea of York as a "convivial" place to live / visit, and collaboration with the city's initiative to improve way-finding.</p>	

	<p>It was agreed that Chris would be invited to the Welcoming City task group.</p> <p>Chris accepted an invitation to meet with YILN.</p>	<p>KB</p> <p>MD</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>AOB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlie Croft reported that the Council had been successful in its peer review under the Equalities Framework for Local Government at the Excellent level. An action plan will now be produced for the next stage of the improvement journey. • Harkirit Boparai reported that the City of Human Rights Network has been successful with an ESRC Fund bid by York University to fund consultation and inter-agency work which has developed 5 priorities to make York a Human Rights city. Workshops to develop these priorities will take place over the summer. • Harkirit informed the board about an event being organised in partnership with North Yorkshire Police for 18 March regarding the development of hate crime reporting. • Rita Sanderson tabled a presentation (attached) concerning a “Community Mentors and Confidence” project • Marije Davidson reported on the York Pride launch event held on 5th March at York St John University. 	
	<p>Date of next meeting: 11 June at 15:00 at West Offices.</p>	