



**Fairness & Equalities Board**

**Notes of the meeting held on 14 June, 2017**

**Present:** Dianne Willcocks (Chair), Sue Collins, Marilyn Crawshaw, Maria Goddard, Helena Nowell, Sian Balsom, Rory Barke (for Rita Sanderson), Leigh Bell, Derek Porter (for Claire Townson), Cllr. Tony Richardson.

**In attendance:** Charlie Croft, Jan Kilmartin.

**Apologies:** Claire Townson, Rita Sanderson, Supt. Adam Thomson, Cllr. Chris Cullwick.

1.	<p><b>Welcome and introductions:</b></p> <p>The Board was informed that Leigh Bell has replaced Sharon Stoltz.</p>
2.	<p><b>Minutes and matters arising from the meeting of 15 March 2016:</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record with the exception that Rita Sanderson was not in fact present and the word “career” in item 4, bullet point 2 should read “carer”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board was informed about the launch of the city’s volunteering strategy/cities of service commitment expected to take place on Monday 20 November. Work is progressing well with a development group meeting to take place in July involving the 6 partners.</li> <li>• Joe Micheli’s presentation to the March meeting is attached again to these minutes for those who did not receive it.</li> </ul>
3.	<p><b>Round Table Partner Updates:</b></p> <p><b>Sue Collins:</b> Ageing Well presentation had been made that morning including on mapping activity that has been undertaken against each strand of the work. Benchmarking has now been undertaken</p> <p><b>Tony Richardson</b> introduced himself as the Conservative spokesperson for equalities and a member of the health scrutiny committee.</p> <p><b>Marilyn Crawshaw</b> reminded the board that the declaration of York City of Human Rights has taken place. The art work produced for the launch event (the declaration itself together with a powerful visual representation</p>

of York engagement) was on display at the One Planet York event today and is now available to tour round. Pledging organisations can access copies of artwork and use the "pledged to ..." logo. See: <http://www.yorkhumanrights.org/>

**Rory Barke** circulated YREN's newsletter. It was commented that celebratory content in the newsletter is particularly helpful in raising the profile of important work in the city. Rory talked about the 25 years of YREN celebration. Over 100 people at the Tang Hall Community Centre event and YREN is looking forward to 25 more years of making York a safe, diverse community. The previous Lord Mayor's charity has raised funds for YREN.

**Maria Goddard:** Reported on a number of excellent events forming part of the Festival of Ideas including a range of events linked to refugees, the future of work, wellbeing, etc.

**Sian Balsom** reported on Healthwatch's launch of a dementia guide produced in conjunction with Minds and Voices Healthwatch York to give residents advice and help on how they can find out more about dementia, find organisations that can provide advice, help, support and social activities, and hear about how York is becoming more dementia friendly. It has been shared with GPs which should make GPs more willing to diagnose knowing that there is support out there for people.

An event is coming up on 5 July on co-production of services as part of co-production week, with Joe Micheli and Jo Baker, to look at what co-production is and what are the barriers and enablers to it.

Healthwatch's annual meeting is on 25 July.

**Helena Nowell** reported that the CCG is doing a series of engagement events over the summer in community venues across the city asking people what they think of health services.

The CCG's equalities and human rights strategy will be refreshed over the autumn. Comments should be directed to Helena.

**Leigh Bell:** Substance Misuse services are now in place for the next 7 years. A launch event in July will focus on how co-production will run through the new approach.

A Suicide Audit is underway. Alongside this a Student Health Needs Assessment is being undertaken.

	<p>Sexual Health Contract is out for consultation.</p> <p>The Wellbeing Team is undertaking health checks and is placing a focus on older people and living well as an older person, including looking at issues such as trips and falls.</p> <p>Activities for Refugee Week were highlighted including two exhibitions around World Refugee Day on 20 June.</p> <p>The York Pride parade was an amazing event. 9,000 people joined in with 15,000 people watching. All secondary schools were present, thought to be a world first. There were 94 photos on the York Press site.</p>
4.	<p><b>Human rights and equalities in York: A narrative concerning current and potential future partnership arrangements:</b></p> <p>Charlie Croft introduced the paper, highlighting the particular opportunity that arises at this moment in time through York's declaration as a city of human rights. This brings focus, energy, enthusiasm and political support from all sides. Equally we all recognise difficulties with the current array of fragmented and over-lapping groups working in the area of equalities. There is therefore a unique opportunity to seize the moment and create new and more powerful arrangements. The Human Rights steering group has been consulted on this paper and is enthusiastic. At the same time they recognise some potential pit-falls in the approach that would need to be exposed and avoided; the devil is in the detail and careful discussion about how to proceed will be essential before taking it forward.</p> <p>The board discussed the proposal. Key points raised were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is currently a maze of groups (see Marilyn's map) some of which are not entirely fit for purpose. Rationalisation therefore makes sense but we must make sure that in any new arrangements there is good representation from civil society. Statutory organisations and other agencies can lend their resources to the project but it needs to be a broad church that takes in voluntary sector, private and public sectors.</li> <li>• The new arrangements would not be about stopping people doing good things, but would rather seek to join up people around the city's strategic intentions and allow people to see where they sit against those intentions.</li> <li>• It was noted that the proposed board represents only one part of the picture of moving forward human rights and equalities in the city. It will take the lead in driving action against the priorities / indicators; other arrangements will be needed to create the overarching forum that may be desirable and potentially to play a scrutiny role.</li> <li>• We must not lose site of issues around poverty and health and</li> </ul>

	<p>wellbeing previously discussed by FEB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance was noted of developing the Community Voices initiative to support this proposal as a wider group to influence change across agenda and agencies.</li> <li>• In any new arrangements it will be critical to establish where responsibility will lie for ensuring that issues identified lead to change being implemented.</li> <li>• The issue was discussed of how the board will acquire authority, whether from the breadth of representation or from its reporting arrangements which it was agreed need to be clearly described. The devil will be in the detail with regard to how much strategic influence any new board has and careful discussion will be needed.</li> <li>• The close relationship of this initiative to, and its fit with, One Planet York was noted. It was agreed that there was potential to share out action on the indicators with existing partnerships.</li> <li>• The potential to refine/enrich the indicators was noted whilst accepting that now is the time for action rather than more counting.</li> </ul> <p>Charlie and Marilyn will take the lead in convening a meeting of key individuals, including Dianne, to discuss the way forward in greater detail.</p> <p>September's FEB meeting will remain in the diary and current membership will be extended to the year end notwithstanding the normal review of membership in October.</p>
5.	AOB: The Community Voices initial event on 28 June: invite is attached.
	<b>Next Meeting:</b> Wednesday 13 September 2017 at 3:00 pm.