

Northampton Borough Council - Northampton Disabled People's Forum

Friday, 12 May 2017 at 10:30 am – 12:30pm

The Holding Room, The Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE.

Agenda

- 1. Welcomes, introductions and apologies**
- 2. Code of Conduct for the Forums**
- 3. Minutes and Matters Arising**

- 4. Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles - Louise Faulkner**
- 5. Action Support (Scooter 2 Go) - Sue Armstrong**
- 6. Northampton Inter Faith Forum - Luisa Jepson**
- 7. Community Information Exchange**
- 8. Items for Next and Future Meetings**
- 9. Date of the Next Meeting**

July 14th 2017 10:30 – 12:30pm, The Guildhall

Map and directions at: www.northampton.gov.uk/guildhall

For more information about this meeting please contact:
Nisha Mejer, Community Support Officer



nmejer@northampton.gov.uk



Tel: 01604 837284



More information about the Forum generally is at: www.northampton.gov.uk/forums



Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthamptonDisabledPeoplesForum?ref=hl>

Please note that this Forum is supported and funded by Northampton Borough Council. The Forum may work in partnership and collaboration with other community groups, councils and local services from time to time. The views expressed and decisions taken by the Forum are not necessarily those of Northampton Borough Council.



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Northampton Borough Council - Northampton Disabled People's Forum

Friday, 24 March 2017 10:30 – 12:30pm

1. WELCOMES, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Present: Martin De Rosario (Co Chair MD), Larry Barber (Individual LB), Barbara Barber (Individual BB), Father Oliver Cross (FC), Cllr Ashraf (CA), Andy Leighton (AL), Jo Painter (VOICE JP), Gillian Chettenden (GC), Carl Weininger (Northants British Polio Fellowship CW), Beverley Mennell (BM).

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes recorded as true to record.

NM contacted the Regeneration team regarding signage in the town centre for toilets.

John Dale Head of Services stated that the team is “looking at the town centre signage in general alongside and as part of the town centre strategy. This will also be part of the discussions.”

3. ANDY LEIGHTON - BLUE BADGE

AL gave an update from the last meeting regarding the Blue Badge issue.

Traffic Wardens to have the power to enforce the Blue Badge system and to remove the badge if it is being abused. The traffic warden also has the jurisdiction to issue a penalty fine.

Please report any abuse of the Blue Badge system to 0845 680 0153. Can also report via the Northamptonshire Highways website.

BM: Disability is not always visible. The medical evidence must be reviewed.

4. VOICE

JP gave a presentation on the organisation VOICE.

VOICE offers free and confidential advice and support to victims of crime. Victims are effected differently to crime.

The support is accessible to everyone although 95% of referrals are from the Police.

Practical support given, eg free door alarms.

BM: There was a burglary in Kingsley and victim died of stress. There have been welfare reforms which means that there have been more burglaries.

CW: It appears that women are effected differently to crime than men.

JP: People are also reluctant to report crime. VOICE works with the witness care scheme and the Criminal Justice System is explained.

RA: Do you support victims where English is a second language?

JP: Yes. We use an interpretation service.

CW: How quick is your response time?

JP: When case comes in an initial phone call is made to the victim. It is then transferred to the allocation team. Each case has its individual requirements.

CW: People are often frightened to go to Court.

JP: Yes – the Police are encouraged to be approachable.

ACTION: NM to send the presentation out to the Forum members.

5. MENTAL HEALTH

MR: Mental health is still a taboo subject. Services are still difficult to access. NCC has less funds and nursing homes are closing. People are living longer and there is more of a strain on resources.

1 in 5 adults suffer mental health and 34% people do not know they suffer mental health.

6. ACTION PLAN

Action plan to be updated:

Disabled People Forum to be made aware by Highways at planning stage of major road changes.

7. COMMUNITY INFORMATION EXCHANGE

World Health Day on April 7th in the Market Square.

8. ITEMS FOR NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Scooter to go to attend next meeting.

NM still trying to contact the Diabetes Unit to attend Forum.

9. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

May 12th 10:30am – 12:30pm, The Guildhall

Code of Conduct for the Forums

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards that the Forums expect of its members. It aims to provide members with an effective ethical framework in which to do business. It is not intended to be exhaustive, or to cover every eventuality, but sets out some common sense requirements to enable the forums to function smoothly and successfully.

It is the responsibility of the Chair to encourage and enable input from forum members, to ensure all voices are heard.

1. Meeting Etiquette

As an attendee you must comply with the following requirements and any others that may be stated from time to time:

- 1.1** Contribute positively to discussions concerning the issues of the meeting
- 1.2** Be friendly, polite, courteous and respectful at all times to fellow members, and others present
- 1.3** Not insult, abuse or use offensive language or behaviour
- 1.4** Comply with Northampton Borough Councils Equal Opportunities Policy
- 1.5** Demonstrate actively that you are interested in and care about the issue that you are discussing and want to make a positive difference
- 1.6** Show respect for buildings, facilities and equipment being used
- 1.7** Speak only through the Chairman of the meeting and not interrupt, heckle, make distracting noises or gestures
- 1.8** Speak clearly into any microphone provided and comply with any instructions given about its use

2. Being Objective

- 2.1** Your own experience and views should inform, but not dominate or dictate how you participate.
- 2.2** If you have a specific issue with regards to a service matter to raise these can be discussed with a member of staff at the end of the each meeting or you can ask for the appropriate officer details. Meetings attended by other residents are not the place to raise any issues of this nature.
- 2.3** Be Fair
- 2.4** You must have and show respect for the people you deal with, and take their circumstances and personal differences into account. This is about putting equality into practice. The key is simply to respect differences fairly, so that you do not exclude anyone, or treat anyone inappropriately or unfairly because of their particular circumstances.

Breaching the Code of Conduct

If any person's behaviour breaches this Code of Conduct, they will be required to leave the meeting and vacate the premises where it is being held. They will not be permitted to attend future meetings unless they provide satisfactory evidence to Northampton Borough Council that they will comply with the Code – e.g. a letter of apology.

If you would like further information or if you would like to discuss the Code of Conduct please contact Vicki Rockall, Partnerships and Communities Manager at vrockall@northampton.gov.uk or on 01604 837074

Forum Action Plan						
Chair:	Cllr. Larratt and Martin De Rosario		Responsible Forum:	Disabled People's Forum		
Outcomes identified within the Corporate Plan:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowered local communities with a greater capacity to become involved in community life Promote integration and cohesion Appropriate support provided to those in most need Services are fair, accessible and responsive to individual needs residents and customers feel informed and engaged in service quality and design Future developments informed by the views of local people Delivery of events to celebrate and enjoy the Town's heritage and culture 					
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify issues of importance to disabled people who live or work in the Borough, research/discuss issues and decide on outcomes to achieve Promote and sustain effective communication between NBC and disabled people living or working in the Borough. Work towards equality of access by disabled people to services, including accessible formats, removing barriers, promoting dialogue and identifying specific requirements. Promoting partnership working by statutory and voluntary sector organisations, and Disabled People's groups and communities 					
Actions:						
Action	Owner	Activity (intelligence led)	Timescale	Cost	Measure	Last Updated
Improve attendance at forum, bringing different groups together to build upon the forum. Including service providers as well as service users.	Partnerships and Communities Team	Continue to promote forum through various networks and communications channels. Leaflets created. Forum members to distribute across to their contacts.	Ongoing	Nil	% increase at forum	April 2017
Hate Crime Awareness Week	NBC/ Northampton Rights and Equality Council / VIN	Week of activity held including Inter Community Forum event for recruitment of Hate Crime Champions,	October 2017	Event held, no. of attendees	November 2016	November 2016
Disability Awareness Week	Partnerships and Communities Team	Awareness raising event, promoting services available. Event venue – Weston Favell Community Centre. Organisations who participated include; Olympus Care	3 rd December 2017	Nil	Event held and % no attendees	September 2016

		Employability Service, Changing Minds (NHFT), Northamptonshire Sport, Local Offer (NCC), Guide Dogs for the Blind, Northamptonshire Polio Fellowship, Door to Door Service.				
Disabled Facilities Grants	AAitken	Help promote the scheme to the community Support AAitken, Adaptations Manager, to raise awareness	Ongoing	Nil		September 2016
Hate Crime work	ALuck/LJepson	Work with LJepson (Crane Project), to set up the forum as a Third Party Reporting Arena, where information can be captured to take to the Police or use part of the data collection to inform national bodies. Can also take 3rd hand information. Idea is to get people to talk.	Ongoing	Nil		September 2016