**Third Sector Older People’s Provider Forum**

Tuesday January 21st 1.30pm

Chair: Andrea Gourlay (Answer House)

Note Taker: Victoria Isbister (VSGWL)

Present: Tracy Kerr (VSGWL), Ann Edwards (Food Train), Leighann Bishop (Ageing Well, Xcite), Donna MacKey (Sporting Memories), Sylvia Forshaw (Cyrenians), Susan Scott (MIST), Graham Stevenson (Home Instead), Marcia Moreira (Health in Mind), Billie Hamilton (Cyrenians), Alison Shedden (50+)

**Agenda**

1. **Welcome and Apologies** – Andrea opened the meeting.
2. **Previous minutes and outstanding actions** – no issues.
3. **Guest speaker**: [**Erin.Wright@dogstrust.org.uk**](mailto:Erin.Wright@dogstrust.org.uk)

Supporter Relations Officer. Mobile: 07787001774. Landline: 01506874026

Thanks to Erin for coming. Feedback on variety of services covered and the practical usefulness of canine care card. Discussion surrounding possibility of inclusion of article in the What’s on where guide. Erin happy for her email to be shared and to speak to volunteers and groups.

<https://www.dogstrust.org.uk/how-we-help/ownership/canine-care-card>

1. **What’s on Where (WOW) Directory update (Graham)**

Current edition live until end of Feb. Printers taking a bit longer so any amendments should be submitted by Feb 7th to ensure inclusion.

1. **Senior People’s Forum update (and any other relevant)** – no update.
2. **VSGWL Update**

* Volunteer Erin has been updating services on Salesforce with information from WOW guide which will pull through to new service locator website.
* Leaders event 22.1.25 – session designed to help charity CEOs reconnect with their purpose, manage stress effectively, and develop resilience to lead sustainably.
* Evening Networking on 18th February
* Civitas Consultancy employed to deliver social enterprise support this year.
* Vol Opps – remember to send them through Gateway. <https://salesforce.123formbuilder.com/form-6733157/volunteer-opportunity-form-new>
* Another planned community centre meeting soon.
* Vol Scotland are running PVG and Disclosure information sessions online. Book in or drop in. Details on Vol Scotland website.

Funding

* Asda Foundation fund for Armadale and Blackridge
* WLCAN eco fund open for applications
* WLC Third Sector Community Fund 25/26 open for 1 year funding to support council priorities. Closes 23 Feb.
* Evoc running a workshop ‘boost funding success’ £15
* CMH Y4 82 applications received requesting £1.3m total pot was £467,000. 41 applications were supported. All orgs have been advised.

1. **Service updates**

Home Instead: Trialling additional service of home environment sensors which would provide data about a client e.g. plug sockets used, doors opened. This data could then help shape care package – what is needed. May fill a gap for people who aren’t eligible or struggling to access Social work assessment.

Health in Mind- 2 new courses and variety of services including 1:1 services for over 55s and 6-week Wellbeing toolkit course.

Carers of WL / MIST: Soon launching resource which is a result of big piece of work detailing what a memory issue journey may look like. Digital copies available (hopefully!) from next week. Watch out on social media. Celebrating launch 12 months in March with event. Referrals now made through website automated into caseload which will help workers. Carers card / disability cards launched. [About CoWL](https://carers-westlothian.com/)

50+ Network: Lots going on, groups and meetings. Get in touch with any queries and see social media.

Food Train: Getting back on track after Christmas – delivered meals to over 100 people in 2 days over whole of WL. This takes months to prepare. Promoting At home support service to existing members. Always promoting for volunteers.

Sporting Memories: Clubs have started back. Full houses despite the colder weather. New volunteer started in Livingston which came through Gateway website. Working with Sky to train staff to support clubs, so far trained over 30 staff in last couple of months. New clubs and partnerships launching all around the country. Heritage lottery fund granted for project in Orkney.

EARS Advocacy: Working with older people working in WL who are dealing with issues where they feel need support. Assessed case by case for priority, currently have a waiting list.

Cyrenians: Community hub development, new screen. Room available when not needed by staff. Wellbeing room. Weekly MIST drop in. Men’s social activity group starts in Feb. Not specifically mental wellbeing. 10 likeminded gentlemen. Coffee mornings - 6th Feb time to talk and will use as opportunity to review Hub which is already 1 year old.

Answer house – Lost a few volunteers but had two new enquiries. Fully booked, 3 or 4 on waiting list.

Xcite – Dementia friendly group launched Thursday, 12 spaces, 50% full, lots of interest.

1. **West Lothian Council updates** – none
2. **AOCB**
   1. Event Wednesday March 5th: Awareness event / providers fayre – feedback and involvement (Graham & Susan)
   * Some stalls still available, get in touch – set up 1pm.
   * Howden Park Centre from 1.30pm – Gallery area and space 3.
   * Potentially some speakers – do you know anyone?
   * Usual refreshments available
   * Launching promotional materials soon – please spread the word
   * WL news will be there on the day
   * WL Courier – waiting on hearing back due to staffing change
   * Dementia bus – 15min experience firsthand what it’s like to live with Dementia
   * If anyone has any contacts e.g. MSPS, VIPs, please get in touch. Billie suggested Kirsteen Sullivan.
   * Open to suggestions and ideas about how to widely promote the event.
   * EARS has a social work contact

**Next meeting: March 18th**

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| WOW Spring Edition | Graham will email updates |
| Any amendments to WOW for Spring | All members to Graham by Feb 7th |
| Winter edition WOW available for collection |  |
| Share event poster | Victoria when received from Susan / Graham |