

HVDA Update



SEPTEMBER 2009

THIRD SECTOR SURVEY RESULTS FOR HARTLEPOOL ON PARTNERSHIP WORKING, SUPPORT SERVICES AND FUNDING

In October 2008 the Government through the Office of the Third Sector undertook a national survey of 104,000 charities and social enterprises. This was conducted by each local authority area. In Hartlepool 166 surveys were sent out with 98 groups responding, a return rate of 59%. The survey included 38 questions.

Key findings were that:

- Support services to the VCS are generally thought to be good.
- Public sector partnership working is generally good but with areas of dissatisfaction particularly in relation to short term funding.

For example after taking out those to whom the question was not relevant 66% were satisfied or very satisfied with the support available to their group with only 16 being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. In terms of partnership working 23% were satisfied or very satisfied whilst 11% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. In terms of access to funding from the public sector 18% were satisfied or very satisfied while 24% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

If you would like a copy of the summary report produced by HVDA which will be presented to the Hartlepool Partnership meeting in September, or you would like the full survey results they can be found on the HVDA website—www.hvda.co.uk

RECESSION FUNDING AWARDED TO HARTLEPOOL VOLUNTARY/COMMUNITY SECTOR GROUPS

The Government set up the Targeted Support Fund to help Voluntary/Community Sector groups which were able to demonstrate an increase in demand for their services as a result of the recession, with £97,288 available for Hartlepool to be administered by the Tees Valley Community Foundation. HVDA promoted this funding and 9 groups applied with bids worth £134k. A panel of Foundation members with representatives nominated by the Hartlepool Partnership, Keith Bayley and Gemma Clough from Hartlepool Borough Council, met and agreed to award funding to 7 groups.

Each group was able to provide real evidence of how the recession had led to an uptake in the demand for their services.

The successful groups were: Hartlepool Credit Union Ltd; The Headland Development Trust; West View Advice and Resource Centre Limited; Owton Manor West Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association; Making a Difference; Epilepsy Outlook; Tees Valley Professional Services Group;

Examples of increased demand were for: job club services; increased need for benefits advice; increased demand for Credit Union services; increased access for young peoples counselling; an increase in work placements for those with complex needs.

HARTLEPOOL GROUPS DO WELL OUT OF NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDING

In 2008/09 an analysis of how funding has been allocated in the North East showed that Hartlepool received £6.02 for each person compared to a North East average of £1.98 per person. On a per head of population basis this made Hartlepool the most successful local authority area in the North East. HVDA will have assisted many groups but most of this success is down to the individual groups themselves. In money terms this amounted to a total of £5,331,258 being awarded to Hartlepool.



VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE RECOGNITION

This summer has seen two awards ceremonies organised by HVDA, the Annual Volunteer Awards and the vInvolved Ceremony as well as a welcome event for Global Exchange Volunteers.

On 26 May the Annual Volunteer Awards Ceremony was held at the Grand Hotel, the awards incorporated presentations from the Theme Partnerships of the Hartlepool Partnership. Awards were presented to individuals, Voluntary/Community Sector groups, Community Network Representatives and LINKs.



The vInvolved ceremony presented young people, those aged between 16-25 with awards this was held at the Historic Quay on 31 July.



HVDA supported the launch of the Global Exchange Welcome Event held on 16 June at the Historic Quay to welcome 18 volunteers from Britain and Ethiopia to work in Hartlepool (HVDA hosted the staff member from Global Exchange earlier in the year to set up the project in Hartlepool).



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