



The South West Neighbourhood Regional Conference - 2007

The South West Neighbourhood Resource Centre hosted their regional network meeting and annual conference at Cheltenham on 5th and 6th June 2007. The theme of this year's conference was "Citizen Engagement"

The Regional Network meeting was held in the afternoon of the 5th at the Hotel da la Bere in Cheltenham. With delegates from across the south west region attending, the meeting was an excellent way to share their scheme updates and practices. Many of the delegates attended the dinner during the evening and continued improving their working relationships.

included scheme managers, wardens, and many from agencies such as the Fire and Police authorities, Community groups, Local Authorities, and Housing Associations to name just a few.



Mark Walker welcoming the delegates



Delegates at the conference

The next day over 140 delegates attended the annual conference held at Cheltenham Race Course. Delegates

Mark Walker, Manager of South West Neighbourhood Training & Resource Centre welcomed everyone to the conference.

Our first speaker was Dave Duggan, Assistant Director of Stronger Communities. David addressed the opportunities offered by the Local Government White Paper on community engagement saying – "we are committed to empowering citizens and communities to devolve more power locally, enable more choice and greater opportunity for communities to own and run local services"

Gavin Jones, Chief Executive of Swindon Borough Council outlined the need for Neighbourhood Management - to encourage people to play a greater part in neighbourhood involvement, how to tailor services to local needs and the benefits of involving other agencies.

Delegates then had the opportunity to take part in the four workshops that aimed at giving everyone the chance to explore areas of involvement within the community.

The Workshops

A. Reaching Older Members of the Community – Facilitators Amy Swan and Emma Spragg, Help the Aged looked at understanding the needs of the older members of the community. This workshop included a 'case study' on how practitioners can encourage the elderly to become more involved

B. Boscombe & Springbourne Neighbourhood Management – Facilitator Joanna Keats, looked at involving the community in environmental issues by demonstrating how breaking down barriers could encourage partnerships working.

C. Engaging Citizens with Disabilities – Facilitators Ashley Nicholson, Stroud's Head warden and Stroud's Access Group, Pam and Phil Hughes This workshop looked at understanding techniques to engage citizens with disabilities, understand their needs and requirements.

D. Involving Residents – Facilitator Lynn Jarvie used case studies from Swindon and Torbay warden schemes to look at how they managed to engage across all sectors of the communities in which they were working. The delegates looked at whom they are not currently engaging in their own communities and how they could overcome this.

The afternoon session began with the **presentation of certificates** by Gavin Jones.

The following wardens have successfully achieved

NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Core Warden Training

Bournemouth

Hannah Beech
David Hamilton



Gavin Jones with Hannah Beech

Forest of Dean

Nick Brain
John Cooke

Helston

Glenn Manning

Plymouth

Paul Elliott
Samantha Pook
Alex Thomas
Peter Temlett
PCSO Cathy Veale

Stroud

Gerry McGrath
Simon Moulding

NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Core Warden Training



Warrick Lynham with Gavin Jones

Swindon

Warrick Lynham
Rob Stygall
David Pestana

Teignbridge

Trevor Head



Trevor Head with Gavin Jones

Transform North Devon Neighbourhood Management Programme

Jacqui Perrin

Torbay

Sam Frost
Pam Woods
Hayley Reed

NVQ Level 2 Certificate in Community Warden Occupations

Ocean Housing Association, St Austell

Kevin Atkinson

Stroud

Chris Acock
Ashley Nicholson

Swindon

Caroline Henly

Torbay

Sue Smith

NVQ Assessor Award

Swindon

Becky Dudley



Becky Dudley with Gavin Jones

Torbay

Tara Fowler

The Young Advisors Chris Coombs and Robbie Coates from Ilfracombe gave an interactive presentation, using labelled boxes to demonstrate "The Wall of Despair" this was used as an aid for discussing ways to resolve the most common issues often raised between young people and adults.



Chris Coombs and Robbie Coates

Sgt. Jason Keates, from Gloucestershire Constabulary gave an insight of the successful implementation of community policing in the Barton, Tredworth & White City area.

Dominic Murphy from Creating Excellence concluded the afternoon presentation with his talk about the future of Neighbourhood Management and their key roles to be played by the Resource Centre, Centre of Excellence and Wardens Schemes in the South West.

Some of the feedback we received from the Conference:

"A very good day with a good range of exhibits and presentations"

"I enjoyed the day, it was interesting to meet people from other organisations and parts of the country, the food and venue were excellent"

"Excellent well informed event"

"This was a really informative and exciting conference, with many opportunities to gain valuable information from fellow schemes"

"I especially found it useful to have other partnerships there, like the fire brigade and the police service, it gave me the opportunity to discuss how we can work closer together in Swindon"

"The young advisors presentation was great"

We are grateful to all our speakers, the workshop facilitators, the Young Advisors and all the delegates who attended, in making this Conference such a success.

CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

Presented by Gavin Jones

NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Core Warden Training

Bournemouth

HANNAH BEECH
DAVID HAMILTON

Forest of Dean

NICK BRAIN
JOHN COOKE

Helston

GLENN MANNING

Plymouth

PAUL ELLIOTT
SAMANTHA POOK
ALEX THOMAS
PETER TEMLETT
PCSO CATHY VEALE

Stroud

GERRY MCGRATH
SIMON MOULDING

Swindon

WARRICK LYNHAM
ROB STYGALL
DAVID PESTANA

Transform North Devon Neighbourhood Management Programme

JACQUI PERRIN

Torbay

SAM FROST
PAM WOODS
HAYLEY REED

NVQ Level 2 Certificate in Community Warden Occupations

Ocean Housing Association, St Austell

KEVIN ATKINSON

Stroud

CHRIS ACOCK
ASHLEY NICHOLSON

Swindon

CAROLINE HENLY

Torbay

SUE SMITH

NVQ Assessor Award

Swindon

BECKY DUDLEY

Torbay

TARA FOWLER

The



Forest of Dean

Nick Brain
John Cooke

Helston

Glenn Manning

Plymouth

Paul Elliott
Samantha Pook
Alex Thomas
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