

Social Inclusion Working Group Development Day

Monday 29 March 2010

Notes from the Day

This was our 3rd development day since February 2008.

At our meeting in February 2010, we decided that the purpose of the day was to finalise discussions we started in December 2009 about how the group works and to look at how the council collects information about the needs and experiences of people from the equality strands.

The day was facilitated by David McCormick who is the chair of the council's Staff Equality Reference group.

3 out of 5 councillors attended, including the Chair and Vice Chair, and there were community group representatives from all the strands except for religion and belief and young people.

The way we work

In the morning, we spend time to get to know each other, looking at our life and work experiences and sharing what we had to bring to the group as individuals.

We then looked at the way we had worked up to now, and discussed and agreed how we needed to work in the future.

We particularly focused on:

- A new name
- Our objectives for 2010-11

Appendix 2

- Our membership: support, roles and responsibilities
- Our meetings in 2010-11
- The budget for 2010-11

We recognized that any decisions we made during the day would only apply for the period April 2010 to May 2011, because of many changes taking place after this year including a council election in May 2011.

What we decided is in the paper called " Arrangements for the period April 2010 to May 2011 ".

Collecting information about the needs and experiences of people from the equality strands.

In the afternoon, we discussed the form that the council uses to collect information about people from the equality strands.

We looked at various examples, including one from Leeds NHS.

We agreed that it was necessary to collect information about **all the strands**, but we recognized that this was a challenging task. For example, we thought that some people would not be happy to be asked what they thought were "private questions", others would not like some of the language used to describe the equality strands.

We decided that Evie would put in place a questionnaire for us to look at again. This is attached here.