

# Action for Affordable Warmth Partnership

Notes from Steering Group Meeting  
21<sup>st</sup> May 2004  
Severn Wye Energy Agency offices

**Present:** Lisa Jones (S Glos. Council), Tim Garland (Pension Service), Jon Langley (Stroud DC), Louise Twinam (NEA), Andrew Cross (Forest of Dean DC) Kaye Welfare (SWEA), Graham Simmonds (S Glos. PCT), Barbara Piranty (Glos. Rural Community Council In touch Advisor), Andrew Banfield (Cheltenham, Cirencester & Tewkesbury CAB)

**Apologies:** Mike Redman (Cheltenham BC), Peter Massey (NEA), Jessica Howell (Tewkesbury Borough Council), Stephen McDonnell (Glos City Council), Gary Packer (Cots DC) Maggie Cornock (Care & Repair), Evelyn Nightingale (Pension Service), Linda Shepherd (Age Concern)

## Pre meeting discussion with AB, GS, KW, TG, LJ:

- Gloucestershire Compact: what is it? AB explained it's an agreement between the statutory and voluntary sector, governing how the vol. Orgs will be funded, how the relationship between the 2 sectors will work. There are both county and district levels compacts.  
**Action LJ** to find out what form such an agreement, if in place, takes in S Glos. - check with Community Strategy team.

1. **Welcome and introduction.** - All to fill in contact list  
**Action LJ** to update

2. **Minutes of last meeting held February 2004** - agreed correct.

### 3. **Minutes**

- AB to arrange with KW dates for training opportunities for CAB staff and volunteers in September.  
**Action KW** to Contact
- CLSP (Community Legal Services Partnership) - KW to get herself on the agenda of next Gloucestershire meeting; LJ to discuss similar with Bristol contact
- NSF8 meetings - each PCT holds meetings, Contacts; Chelt and Tewks Sue Wild, Cots and Vale Phil Bennet, West Glos Sarah Wilson  
**Action KW** to contact
- Autumn benefit take up campaign is linked in Cheltenham with the Health & Wellbeing Partnership. Bill Wragg is chair in Cotswold - check with Gary Packer for contact. Rosemary Lind at CDC. South Glos have the Better Health Partnership, LJ already linked into this. GS gave useful contact in S Glos CAB as John Graham, LJ also should contact North Bristol Advice Centre (Sally Gapper on 0117 951 5751)

### 4. **Round up of activities 2003/04:**

- KW gave W&W update figs and Glos EEAC figs (see attached reports for full details)

- Active Warm & Well sessions - 5 done and 5 more booked, aim 20 by Dec, av 8-12 people per session
- Rent Warm & Well - funding from NEA to provide insulation measures for private rented sector, promoted in Forest and Stroud, next Gloucester City
- KW has attended and spoken at most of the Landlords' Fora in the County.
- UK Public Health Forum Brighton - KW did presentation on developing relationships with health sector in particular "Active, W&W"
- "Choosing Health" - a new Govt consultation looking at all areas of health in the community, anyone can feed into the consultation, not all areas are doing public events as timescales v short between announcement and closure of consultation. KW attended West Glos PCT consultation event. Full details of consultation are on Department of Health Website. S Glos is holding consultation events on smoking in public places.
- BP: older people's advice days in Gloucestershire - 5 in the year. Future plans are for GRCC to take info days to rural areas via parish councils, by producing a toolkit so parish councils can set up the days for themselves. Need to ensure success or take up of toolkit is monitored.  
**Action;** BP to provide copies of tool kit to KW when available
- BP said GRCC field workers on the ground can feed in info via contacts at grass roots level, influencing parish plans.
- GS: has been participating in SAP (Single Assessment Process for Older People) training and has mentioned affordable warmth and Warm and Well in his sessions - LJ has then fleshed this out in later SAP training sessions specifically on W&W and health impacts of cold housing. His sessions covered health and physical activity, food & health, smoking, affordable warmth, behavioural change. GS also mentioned there is an Older People's Training Matrix organised via Social Services (Nick Thorne) which is meant to guide the training provided for professionals and carers, in a co-ordinated approach.  
**Action:** LJ needs to contact Nick Thorne to ensure links to W&W etc are made in this matrix.
- S Glos Health Promotion Work plan mentions affordable warmth
- JL will supply info on Stroud DC grants issues outside W&W; also Stroud have been jointly awarded Beacon Status with Cotswold DC. GP reported activities in CDC separately to the meeting as follows: 134 energy grants approved for low income / over 70's (heating and/or insulation), 10 talks to community groups, 8 press articles, 9 PR stands, 2.9% EE improvement reported to DEFRA, emergency heating scheme introduced with Cotswold Staying Put (HIA), revised HECA strategy published for 2004-2007, grant policy adapted to incorporate renewables and hard to treat homes, sustainable energy and fuel poverty info available at new Council Information Points.
- JH reported from Tewkesbury that their benefits team in conjunction with Pension Service had held drop in sessions for older residents, W&W was promoted at these events and referrals received - benefits team were grateful for availability of CFLs as items to attract visitors to the stand. JH has briefed the benefits team on W&W and given out referral materials for visiting officers to use.
- AC: FoD are working with a particular landlord in Coleford as a pilot scheme to improve the EE and general conditions of 8 flats using special grants - no grants

are normally available except via Empty Homes route. The property cannot be cavity insulated and is listed, presenting a range of challenges.

- Tim Garland: SAP training in same sessions as LJ, covering AA / BBRs / outreach services / benefits take up etc. Have rural area pension surgeries and can give feedback to those who have attended SAP training so they can know exactly how much extra money their referrals to Pension Service have generated.

#### 5. Priority for coming year;

At September 2003 meeting the following areas of activity were agreed as the focus for 2004/05:

- **Develop working links with CAB**
  - **Work with private sector landlords**
  - **Raise awareness and understanding of EE amongst social housing tenants**
  - **Ensure advice is accessible to all (language & understanding barriers etc)**
  - **Improve links with hospital discharge / admission prevention services**
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- Louise Twinam - discussed projects in other areas and will forward details of HIA link person and hospital discharge, video for deaf
  - Pension Services in S Glos is involved in developing a new “advice hub” at a former primary school in Kingswood - opportunity for involvement with EEAC / Warm and Well
  - Gloucestershire LASP is going to look into “tenant training” via the Glos. HECA Group, discuss ideas for training LA staff (Wise Homes Scheme in Stroud).  
**Actions:** LJ to email KW her training programme for LA staff and heating contractors. LJ to email LA contacts in the Partnership to encourage them to make contact with Tenant Participation Officers where possible to “warm them up” for tenant training ideas.
  - Hospital discharge - LT is working with another community project looking at putting a post into the local HIA to facilitate a Hospital Discharge Scheme, 24 Sept meeting to focus on this topic.  
**Actions:** KW will talk to Jill Kearsley re. ideas for a speaker. LJ to invite a general manager from a hospital trust to participate.

#### 6. Round-up of activities 2004/05:

- SWEA’s Energy Intelligent Europe bid - advice provision and best practice exchange; bid yet to be decided.
- Solar grants to be available from June onwards via Solar Warm & Well.
- Flu jabs campaign - SWEA trying to organise the flu jab message being printed on the reverse of the next batch of W&W thermo cards.  
**Action:** LJ needs to discuss tying up with local flu jab campaign in S Glos with Karen Biddell.
- Stroud are launching new grants for GSHP systems, to match Clear Skies grant.
- S Glos’s Park Homes Insulation Project is taking off, energy efficiency programme rather than fuel poverty programme. Now adopts same eligibility criteria as expanded Warm and Well list but also includes long term disability benefit as a qualifying benefit.

7. **Next meeting:** 9.30 pm, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at Gloucestershire Rural Community Council Office, Community House, 15 College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LZ. Tel contact 01452 528491 for directions.