



SUFFOLK VOLUNTEERING FEDERATION

Feedback Report

Title of Meeting:	England Volunteering Development Council - Eastern Region
Meeting date and time:	10.30am - 1pm, Thursday 18 th September 2008
Place:	Cambridge Professional Dvelopment Centre
Attendees:	VC representatives, BitC, Museums, Libraries and Heritage, Volunteering England, Sport England, Suffolk Volunteering Federation, Go-East
Agenda for the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Update: see link for most recent Policywatch: www.volunteering.org.uk/WhatWeDo/Policy/Policy+Watch • VE had made a response to the Conservative Party Green paper. Greg Clark, Shadow spokesperson for the Third Sector will be attending the next national EVDC. • The action groups formed to take forward the work of the Commission all now have Chairs- a couple have met already. Progress and the opportunity to feed in can be accessed via www.volcomm.org.uk • National Support Services: these are funded via Capacity Builders and have replaced the previous Hubs. There are nine areas of work – one of which is modernising volunteering and on which VE are leading. They want regional and local to be at the heart of this work and tender opportunities will be available. • 2012: VE are proposing to lead in a partnership with their equivalent bodies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, to encourage the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games to use the existing infrastructure to recruit games-time volunteers. • Funding of approximately £5,000 will be available to each regional EVDC to spend on regional activity. It was suggested this could be used to support the development and printing of the Regional Volunteering Strategy. <p>Updates from partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROMS – Changes happening as the management of offenders in prisons and via Probation Services are merging. NOMS Third Sector Strategy is due out shortly and issues affecting volunteering will be fed into the Regional Strategy • Sport England are restructuring and down-sizing their regional office. The new National (as opposed to regional) strategy has just been launched and focuses on increasing participation in sport. There will be a separate physical activity strategy which will be led by the DOH • MLA East – also restructuring and down sizing their regional office • BitC has been working with prisons in the region focusing on employability and skills.
Comments	With all the regional restructuring that is going on it is very important that membership of EVDC is reviewed as a priority
Contact	For more detail on any item, please contact Gill on 01638 602711 or gill@volunteeringsuffolk.org.uk