

Ongoing Work with the Scarborough & Ryedale CCG

The Forum continues to work closely with the Scarborough and Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to provide community consultation on their developing priorities and proposals. Our previous consultation conducted at a Forum event in March highlighted a number of community issues that the CCG Board has taken on board. Foremost of these was a desire for more self-help activity at the grassroots. Therefore we feel as an Area Forum Support Group that we can offer valuable expertise in this area and as such have produced a recommendations report that has been presented to the CCG Engagement and Communications Sub Committee. The report outlined avenues for the CCG to explore with regard to developing healthcare support and assistance at a community level. They were keen to investigate the possibility of re-introducing professional assistance and development for self-help groups in the Borough.

As part of the ongoing consultation and development work with the CCG the Area Forum is planning to hold a combined consultation and information event in late October to showcase some of the good work that is done by health based self-help and support groups that are active locally as well as asking residents to identify potential gaps in self-help provision. This Forum event is scheduled for the afternoon of 26 October at Scarborough Library. As before we intend to take our findings to the CCG Board in the form of a recommendations report.

North Yorkshire County Councillors Question Time

In June the Forum continued its campaign to bring democracy directly to the people of Scarborough as we held the latest in our series of Question Time events. This time it was with the newly elected County Councillors for the Scarborough Urban area (including Newby) that made up the panel. Nearly 50 people attended the event and a number of County Council related service issues were brought up including; street lighting, drain clearing, road surfacing and the distribution of council tax. As always, the County Councillors on the Panel agreed to progress some of the raised issues with the relevant officers at NYCC.

2013 Scarborough Four Corners Walk

As part of the Forum's 2013 theme of healthy communities the Support Group have been working towards bringing back the Scarborough Four Corners Walk. This year the event will be held on Friday 23 August with all the walks setting off at 10am. The Four Corners Walk was first held in 2005 and was delivered by the SBC led PACT regeneration partnerships and the local Surestart centres. The idea of the event was that four separate risk assessed and guided walks would set off from the 'four corners' of Scarborough (Old Town, Barrowcliff, Falsgrave and Eastfield) and walk to the Mere where there would be free kids entertainment and face painting. The objective of the project is to encourage families to walk places rather than using cars or public

transport, as well as promoting community cohesion by bringing the four communities together for the same event. All the walks for this year's event have been re-risk assessed and a training session has been organised for the eight volunteer walk leaders. Funding for the event has been kindly donated by the Richard Fox Memorial Fund.

Ros Fox
Chair, Scarborough Urban Area Forum