

Equality Hub Network Newsletter

April 2016



Hi all

Just a quick reminder – on **Thursday 5 May there are elections** for Sheffield City Council, South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and the by-election for Sheffield Brightside and Hillsborough Constituency. Make sure to use your vote!

Keep reading for more news from around the Equality Hub Network.

Kind regards

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If you have news or information to share, we'd love to hear from you! Check out the [submission deadlines](#) and fill in a [submission form](#). If you are organising an event please check that the venue and facilities are accessible so that all communities of interest can attend.

[Past editions of the Equality Hub Network newsletter](#) are available to download from the website.

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Equality Hub Network meetings

Upcoming Hub meetings

- [Women's Hub](#): Tuesday 10 May 2016, 1pm to 3pm, Town Hall
- [Disability Hub](#): Wednesday 25 May 2016, 1.30pm to 3.45pm, The Circle
- [Religion /Belief Hub](#): Wednesday 8 June 2016, 2pm to 4pm, Town Hall
- [LGBT Hub](#): Wednesday 15 June 2016, 5.30pm to 7.30pm, Town Hall

Please email equalitiesandinvolvement@sheffield.gov.uk if you would like to attend any meetings.

See the [Equality Hub Network calendar](#) for all scheduled meetings and events.

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Consultations

Sheffield City Council's Citizen Space

[Citizen Space](#) is Sheffield City Council's consultation hub. You can take part in consultations that interest you, and [sign up for alerts](#) on a wide range of topics, including ones for the Equality Hub Network.

There are lots of other [ways to have your say](#) on proposals and influence decisions, including [attending Council meetings](#).

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Housing Benefit and Council Tax Services Customer Satisfaction Consultation – Sheffield City Council

Closes Sunday 24 April 2016

Sheffield City Council collects Council Tax from over 240,000 households. We also provide Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support to over 60,000 households in the city. This financial support helps maintain communities and assists individual citizens to meet their rent and Council Tax liabilities. As funding from central government continues to reduce, the money we collect in Council Tax plays a vital role in ensuring we continue to provide the services our citizens and communities need.

We are committed to providing the best possible service to all customers who pay Council Tax and through the work we do in assessing claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support. To support this we need to know what you think of the services we provide and find out how you think we might be able to improve what we do. We value your comments and we will use the responses you give us to help us to continuously improve the service we give to you. Give us your views at <https://sheffield.citizenspace.com/resources/housing-council-tax-customer-satisfaction>. Survey closes Sunday 24 April 2016.

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Volunteering and State of the Voluntary Sector Surveys – Voluntary Action Sheffield / Sheffield City Council

Closes Sunday 24 April 2016

Voluntary Action Sheffield (VAS) have commissioned two surveys; a state of the sector survey to provide sound evidence of where the voluntary sector is up to with a range of issues, and also a survey about why people do / don't volunteer. This evidence base will help to inform policy, decision making and the use of resources for both the public and voluntary sectors.

Please complete one or both surveys relevant to you and have your say!

Survey of organisations: <https://cresrsurvey.shu.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=145978393464>

Survey of individuals: <https://cresrsurvey.shu.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=145865197788>

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Sheffield Priorities Consultation – Learn Sheffield

Closes Friday 29 April 2016

Learn Sheffield is a school-led company developed from the Local Authority's education services. The company is directly owned by schools, colleges and Sheffield City Council. Its purpose is to nurture effective partnerships within an ambitious and effective culture so that, in Sheffield, all of our young people learn with great teachers, in great settings, which are constantly improving.

It is a not for profit company limited by guarantee, of which 80% is owned by schools and colleges and 20% by Sheffield City Council. Learn Sheffield does not distinguish between different types of setting; it is there to support any publicly funded school or college working with Sheffield's children and young people.

It is currently consulting on its priorities and you can have a say. These priorities have been developed with a wide range of different stakeholders in Sheffield's education system. For more info, visit www.learnsheffield.co.uk/Communications/SheffieldPriorities. The consultation closes Friday 29 April 2016.

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Private Hire Vehicle and Operator Policy consultation – Sheffield City Council

Closes Friday 20 May 2016, 5pm

Sheffield City Council is responsible for the regulation of private hire vehicles, operators, and drivers within the city boundary. The principal purpose of private hire operator and private hire vehicle licensing is to protect the public and to promote public safety, and with this in mind the Council will promote:

- The protection of the public, safeguarding children and the vulnerable, prevention of crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance
- The provision of professional, courteous and knowledgeable licence holders
- The vision and objectives of Sheffield City Council

The Licensing Service is currently reviewing its policies in relation to private hire operators and private hire vehicles in Sheffield. We welcome comments regarding the new Private Hire Vehicle and Operator Policy. To download the policy and give us your views, visit <https://sheffield.citizenspace.com/place-business-strategy/private-hire-vehicle-operator-policy>. All comments must be submitted by 5pm on Friday 20 May 2016.

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Improving Cancer Care in Sheffield consultation – Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Closes Tuesday 31 May 2016

In 2015/16 NHS Sheffield CCG and Sheffield City Council undertook work to understand the needs of Sheffield residents in relation to prevention, diagnosis, treatment and living with cancer. We now wish to discuss these with Sheffield residents, including people living with and beyond cancer and their families. For more info, including a leaflet and potential areas of action for 2016/17, and to have your say, visit <https://sheffield.citizenspace.com/ccg-sheffield/improving-cancer-care-sheffield>. This consultation closes Tuesday 31 May 2016.

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How can we improve support for carers? – Department of Health

Closes Thursday 30 June 2016

The Department of Health has launched a new listening exercise 'How can we improve support for carers?' designed to build an accurate and meaningful picture of the needs and aspirations of all unpaid carers and the kinds of support that can really make a difference for them. It wants to hear from carers, those who have someone care for them, business, social workers, NHS staff and other professionals that support carers. For more info and to have your say visit <https://consultations.dh.gov.uk/carers/how-can-we-improve-support-for-carers>. This consultation closes Thursday 30 June 2016.

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Other events

More in Store Course – SilenceBreaker Media

Wednesday 6 April 2016 to Wednesday 29 June 2016, 2pm to 4pm
The SBm Hub, 1 Bowling Green Street, S3 8SU

Younger people in Sheffield have the chance to get hands-on experience in computer and internet support and sales training for free at a Sheffield based social enterprise in the Kelham Island Quarter with desktops, laptops, tablets and even locally-renowned Raspberry Pi technology available. SilenceBreaker Media are running the More In Store project where people aged between 16 and 25 years old can access personalised and flexible learning through twelve 2-hour workshops at The SBm Hub, 1 Bowling Green Street, Sheffield, S3 8SU. The workshops start on the 6th of April, running every Wednesday, 2-4pm.

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Sheffield Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday 20 April 2016, 5.45pm
Town Hall, Pinstone Street, S1 2HH

The Sheffield Hate Crime Panel scrutinises reported incidents of hate crime within the city and offer advice to the Police and other public bodies on how best to deal with certain incidents. If you are interested in joining the panel, please contact andrew@stophateuk.org. More information on the Council's [hate crime and incidents webpage](#).

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Special Olympics Taster Day – Special Olympics South Yorkshire Partnership

Sunday 24 April 2016, 9.30am to 2.30pm
English Institute of Sport, 200 Coleridge Road, S9 5DA

People with an intellectual disability, their families and friends are invited to try all six different sports at a taster session. Meet coaches and clubs in football, cricket, boccia, athletics, basketball, judo. Café open throughout for food/refreshments. For more info and to book your place visit www.sysport.co.uk/SpecialOlympics or call 0330 2020280.

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Carer Joint Consultation Event – Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust / Sheffield City Council

Thursday 28 April 2016, 12pm to 2pm
Carers Centre, Concept House, 5 Young Street, S1 4UP

Following the release of the Sheffield's Carers Strategy, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals are hosting a carers consultation event in partnership with Sheffield City Council. We want to better understand the experience of carers in our hospitals and welcome you along to an informal event to discuss your experiences and share views of how services could be improved to better support carers. If you are interested in attending this event please ring the Patient Services Team on 0114 2712400 or email PST@sth.nhs.uk. A light lunch will be provided.

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IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia) public rally

Tuesday 17 May 2016, 5pm
Peace Gardens, Pinstone Street, S1 2HH

For the past 10 years, Sheffield has held a public 'rally' on [IDAHOBIT](#) (17 May) culminating in a '1 minute noise'. This idea of noise as opposed to silence has been adopted by other cities in the UK and in other countries. More info about activities to mark the day will be posted on the [Council's IDAHOBIT webpage](#).

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Carers Service Improvement Forum meeting – Sheffield City Council

Thursday 26 May 2016, 10.30am to 12.30pm
Town Hall, Pinstone Street, S1 2HH

The Carers Service Improvement Forum (SIF) is for carers who support adults who access Adult Social Care services. Members work together with senior managers to check up on the quality of services and find ways to make things better. We will pay any out of pocket expenses to enable you to attend and refreshments will be provided throughout the meeting. For more info visit www.sheffield.gov.uk/carersforum or email Melanie.Rice@sheffield.gov.uk or ring 0114 2735299.

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Rites of Passage (play) – Friends of Edward Carpenter/Artemis Theatre

Monday 30 May 2016, 7.30pm (doors at 7pm)
Merlin Theatre, Meadow Bank Road, S11 9AH

Please support or promote this event which is coming to Sheffield and highlights the plight of LGBT refugees and asylum seekers coming to the UK. This will be the first formal production in the newly refurbished Merlin theatre. Friends of Edward Carpenter are proud to have been asked to host this event by the acclaimed writer and performer Claire Summerskill and Artemis Theatre on its nationwide tour. The UK Lesbian & Gay Immigration Group called this 'the most powerful and accurate portrayal of LGBT asylum seeker stories I've ever watched'. This is set to be an evening of powerful and moving performances. Tickets and more info at <http://cliffordevents.co.uk/Rights%20of%20Passage.htm>.

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Other news

Vacancy: Religion/Belief Hub Representative - of no religious belief – Religion/Belief Hub

Deadline for statements Monday 30 May 2016, 5pm

There is a vacancy for the role of Religion/Belief Hub Representative - of no religious belief. Elections will be held at the 8 June Religion/Belief Hub meeting. People who wish to stand for the role must identify as not having a religious belief and need to submit a short statement to equalitiesandinvolvement@sheffield.gov.uk with subject 'R/B Hub Rep candidate statement'. The

statement should be no more than 200 words and include information about the candidate – who they are and what they can bring to the role. **Deadline for submissions is Monday 30 May 2016, 5pm.** For more information, download the [role of the Hub Representative](#) or contact sharschonborn@hotmail.com, 07533 834825.

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EMPOWER (Educational Materials for Practitioners providing Opportunities for vulnerable Women's Employability and Resilience) – Inova Consultancy

Do you volunteer or work with vulnerable women? EMPOWER (Educational Materials for Practitioners providing Opportunities for vulnerable Women's Employability and Resilience) is a new European Commission fully funded project which will help you to develop training knowledge and skills for increasing confidence in the vulnerable women you work with and support them to develop the skills they will need to enter the labour market and become independent. Part of the programme will also involve working directly with the vulnerable women themselves, helping to develop 'soft skills' and increase their confidence, so there is also an opportunity for training for those you are supporting to benefit from the project. For more info on EMPOWER, contact Nitya Teagarajan at info@inovaconsult.com or 0114 2799091.

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All About YOU – Woodthorpe Development Trust

All About YOU is a new service providing adults with learning disabilities the opportunity to develop, build skills and engage in meaningful activities to help them live their lives as independently as possible.

OPTIONS provides individuals with one to one support to enable them to have freedom and choice to access activities & projects within their community. More info at www.woodthorpedt.co.uk or contact Vicki Ambler at Vicki@woodthorpedt.org.uk or 0114 654165.

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Social Purpose Entrepreneur Hub – FaithStar Foundation

Do you have a business idea? Do you want to be your own boss? The Social Purpose Entrepreneur Hub has been set up to provide 4 entrepreneurs a chance to start their business. With a simple application form you could be on your way to success. For more info visit www.faithstarlp.com/speh or email info@faithstar.org.

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Sheffield Housing Market Profiles available to download

The Housing Market Profiles are a series of reports and summaries that provide information on the housing markets and social characteristics of the 13 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Sheffield. The profiles are a narrative on the characteristics, neighbourhoods and housing in each of the HMAs. They identify the types and range of homes that are needed in the areas to meet the current and future demand for housing in Sheffield. The Housing Market Profiles can be downloaded from www.sheffield.gov.uk/in-your-area/housing-services/housing-strategies/housing-market-area-profiles.html.

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Sheffield Fairness Commission Annual Review 2016 Report available to download

The Fairness Commission published its report in January 2013. This [annual review 2016 report](#) gives an update on progress made since the last Annual Review in March 2014. Download it from www.sheffield.gov.uk/fairnesscommission.

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State of Sheffield 2016 available to download

[State of Sheffield 2016](#) was published on Thursday 18 February, with a launch event at Hallam Hall. This year's report looks back over the five years the report has been commissioned by Sheffield Executive Board to identify the major trends impacting on life in the city, covering the following ground:

- Living & Working
- Growth & Income
- Attainment & Ambition
- Health & Wellbeing
- Looking Forwards

[State of Sheffield 2016](#) is a must read for anyone with an interest in how our city is performing; we now need to talk as a city about how Sheffield moves forward, and what we can all do to contribute.

Download the report at www.sheffieldfirst.com/key-documents/state-of-sheffield.html.

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The Power of Sheffield Journeys

Locations and journeys that we 'know' play an important role for everyone and even more so in dementia and later life when mobility may be an issue. Claire Craig (Sheffield Hallam University) and Jayne Wallace (Northumbria University) are working with bus and tram companies across the city to explore how to make meaningful journeys come to life again.

The 'Power of Sheffield Journeys' project will develop an archive of 'travellers-eye-view' film footage accompanied by rich oral histories gathered through events across Sheffield. Within this process people living with dementia will be positioned as 'experts' in creating a rich resource for future generations. To find out more visit www.thepowerofsheffieldjourneys.org.uk.

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New LGBT books in libraries

100 new Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) books have been added to Sheffield's library collection, bringing the total collection to more than 300 titles. The books include modern classic fiction and biographies from LGBT authors as well as stories of activism. They also include reference books looking at LGBT issues and how to deal with them, and advice and support for the LGBT community. The new books hit the shelves last month to mark LGBT History Month which promotes diversity and equality. The collection is held in the Central Lending Library but the books can be loaned from all branches. For more information about [LGBT resources in libraries](#), visit the Council website.

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Manal's Disability Community

[Manal's Disability Community YouTube channel](#) aims to give disabled people a platform to share your experiences of having a disability and how you deal with the challenges that face you on a daily basis. You can also review whether the equipment and adaptations you use meets your needs and recommend equipment or suggest improvements. The overall aim of the channel is to build a community where disabled people feel comfortable sharing their knowledge and experience of having a disability and can support each other. Please contact Manal on the YouTube channel or by emailing manalsdisabilitycommunity@gmail.com if you are interested in being filmed using your equipment and/or giving your comments.

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The uneven impact of welfare reform report available to download

[The uneven impact of welfare reform](#) report by Christina Beatty and Steve Fothergill from Sheffield Hallam University's Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research is now available to download at www.shu.ac.uk/research/cresr/reports. This new report brings the story forward by including the welfare reforms announced since the May 2015 general election. It also updates all the figures for the pre-2015 reforms to take account of the actual outturn. This enables an assessment not only of the cumulative impact by the end of the present decade but also of how much has happened already and how much is still in the pipeline. A link to the [full dataset](#) can be found within the report.

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If you wish to be removed from the Equality Hub Network list, please email equalitiesandinvolvement@sheffield.gov.uk with the subject 'unsubscribe'.