

Community Base participant group meeting 29th May 2008

The meeting was attended by Annette (Community Base), Sally (Community and Voluntary Sector Forum), Paul (NHS Support Federation and Community Base trustee) and Ros (Amaze and Community Base trustee)

1 Refugee week event

Annette said that Community Base was organising its fifth annual event for refugee week on 16th June under the title *Refugees – they're welcome here!* There would be films, food and a discussion with national and local guest speakers. Annette said these events were usually well attended and informative and invited everyone along.

2 Soap and washing up liquid

Annette reported that there had been problems with shortages of soap and washing up liquid but these issues had now been resolved, with broken dispensers being replaced and the cleaners now regularly topping up washing up liquid.

3 The Community and Voluntary Sector Forum (CVSF) and the policy on partnership working

Sally said that she would be meeting with the CVSF chair to discuss CVSF's response to the letter she had received from the Community Base director following the May Community Base board meeting.

Sally said that the Stronger Communities Programme is a cross-sector partnership and so perhaps should not be listed on the Community Base website as a CVSF project as this would be inconsistent with Community Base's views on who can give Community Base as an address.

Sally asked if CVSF is working to help the local community and voluntary sector why is Community Base not allowing that work to be carried out from Community Base.

Annette replied that Community Base is a home for community and voluntary groups but not cross-sector partnerships even if their work helps the community and voluntary sector. There are a lot of good people and projects that help people that are not community or voluntary organisations.