

# Resident Involvement News



*News from the Community Partnership Team*

*June 2015 Issue 77*

## Resident Involvement Impact Session (Reflect, Assess and Progress)

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 10am – 12pm, Room 3, Civic Offices**

### Resident involvement with Milton Keynes Council

- What difference do you think it makes having residents in the room?
- Is it a positive use of everyone's time?
- How do things change when residents are involved?
- How can we measure impact and progress in shared projects?
- What can we do to produce still better input and outcomes for all?

Nic Bliss, chair of the Confederation of Co-operative Housing (CCH), will be running the session to examine what good Resident Involvement looks like and to explore what we can do better here at Milton Keynes Council. It is so important that you come along and give us your ideas to make sure we are providing the best service for you.

To book a place (and they are limited) or for any further info, please call Katherine Geddes on 01908 253174 or email on [katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

## HEALTHCHECKS 2015



Six are done.  
Five are upcoming.  
So we have already surpassed 2014's total!

**BUT** eight Residents Associations are yet to arrange their Healthchecks and risk missing out on all the grant funding available to them via MKC before the end of June. If you want to use it and not lose it, contact Katherine Geddes on 01908 253174 or at [katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

If your group has completed the Healthcheck, your development grants should have arrived or be on their way now.

Please **DO NOT FORGET**, if your group has been successfully accredited for 2015/16, you can apply for additional funding for specific projects. There is between £50 and £700 available per group (dependent on criteria). Application forms for this extra funding are at the back of the Healthcheck form pack. If you don't have an application form, please contact me as soon as possible and I will send one out to you.

Closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Don't miss out!

# Useful Information in MK



The Safer Places scheme is part of a wider “Respect me” campaign which aims to improve the experience of people in the community who have a learning disability, physical disability, mental health condition, sensory impairment, or an older person who may have memory loss.

Safer Places provides members of the public with a safe place to go if they have been bullied or harassed, or feel vulnerable or afraid.

## How does it work?

- Shops/community centres other public buildings/premises place visible signs to say that they are a ‘Safe Place’.
- All staff at a recognised ‘Safe Place’ premises is provided with a Safe Place Guide and relevant training which provides information on how to deal with varying issues, the correct terminology to use and hints and tips for good communication.
- Primarily, the scheme is aimed at supporting individuals who, for varying reasons, are deemed to be vulnerable. Any individual who wishes to be part of the scheme can carry a card. The cards have an option to have two relevant contact numbers on for the carrier.
- If they need help, they go in and show the card, and staff will call one of the numbers on the card, or relevant emergency services, if necessary. They look after the person until the help arrives.



As part of the new Safer Places initiative, Safer MK are looking for local businesses and organisations within the MK community to get involved and become part of the scheme. These may be libraries, children’s centres, town/parish councils, charities, GP surgeries, community centres, shops and small businesses.

If you know of a local business or organization operating in your area which you feel may be suitable for inclusion in this scheme or if you feel your Residents Association can help, please contact Sophie Ward at [sophie.ward@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:sophie.ward@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or call her on 01908 253984.

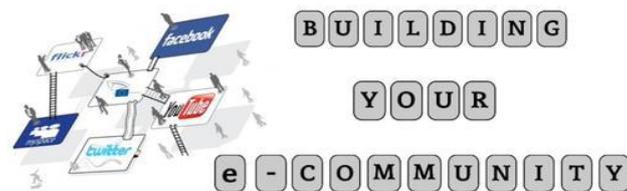
## Dates for Your Diary June and July 2015

<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Scrutiny Group meeting - for info, contact Janette Bobey on 01908 676320
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Resident Involvement Review Group Room 4 @ 2.30 – discussing the Rent Review and format for this year’s Housing Review
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	Scrutiny Group meeting - for info, contact Janette Bobey on 01908 676320
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	Resident Involvement Impact Session Room 3, 10am-12pm (booked places only)
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Resident Involvement Review Group Room 4 @ 10.30 – discussing the Rent Review and content for this year’s Housing Review
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Residents Association Network Room 2, 7-9pm – focussing on Funding how to apply for it and how to get it.
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<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Housing Services Forum - Scrutiny (tenants scrutiny presentation), Rent Review Update and Complaints Procedures, 7:30pm

To find out more information or to book a place on any of these events you can contact Katherine Geddes from the Community Partnership Team on **01908 253174** or email [katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:katherine.geddes@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

Meetings include light refreshments and we can arrange transport if you need it.

### #EngageMK NETWORKING EVENT



**Monday 22nd of June 3-4.30pm @ Bradwell Abbey**

Come along to enjoy **summer refreshments** & the opportunity to network with colleagues from other community sector organisations in MK!



Featuring presentations from **Jersey Road PR Agency** and **Willen Hospice**, including useful tips on how to communicate your great work through digital channels!

Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/nw65qzw> call us on 01908 661623



**The Resident Involvement Newsletter** is produced by The Community Partnership Team  
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Copies are available in alternative formats on request.