

18th February 2009

Mr Geoff Pearson
Scottish Government
Victoria Quay
EDINBURGH
EH6 6QQ

Dear Geoff

The New Third Sector Interfaces

I refer to your letter dated 2 February 2009 and our recent discussions regarding your visit to Dundee which was unfortunately cancelled due to the bad weather last week. Today I have emailed you and Mark with a possible alternative date of 2nd March 2009.

As requested here is a summary of the state of play within Dundee as detailed in the papers and documents recently sent to you:

- Both the CVS and Volunteer Centres have been in contact with the Third Sector Team for clarification. The author of the letter, Geoff Pearson has met both networks at national conferences in September and October. The Edinburgh Compact model has been held up as an good example
- DVA senior staff are already providing a 'a voluntary sector interface' with Community Planning via its various forums, chairing the Equality & Diversity Partnership and having a place on the Dundee Partnership Management Group and Co-ordinating Group and most thematic groups of the Partnership (see chart C)
- DVA Chief Executive chairs Local Social Economy Partnership and is a member of the local Social Enterprise Network.
- DVA and the Volunteer Centre developed the Dundee Compact, an agreement between the Dundee Partnership and the voluntary sector, 4th July 2007
- The Compact has led to the Volunteer Centre developing the Dundee Partnership Volunteering Strategy launched 5th December 2008
- Informal discussions between senior staff of DVA and Volunteer Centre
- Informal discussion between senior staff and Dundee Community Planning Officer (who will be invited to joint meeting)
- Volunteer Centre Manager was elected to DVA Board and offered place on their Board to DVA
- DVA Board of Management has discussed issue of Local Infrastructure at meetings since October 2008 when new Board of Directors elected. Discussions with DVA Board and Liaison Officers from NHS Tayside, DCC Leisure & Communities and Social Work Departments. (DVA Paper to Board & charts already circulated to you in email last week)
- Volunteer Centre Board has Local Infrastructure as standing item on their agenda
- Meeting between DVA Chief Executive and Convener and VC manager
- Informal discussions with Olive Smiles, Leisure & Communities Department, DCC Lead Officer for the Compact and Volunteering Strategy

I hope that this update is sufficient for you at present. A fuller report will be produced once we have met with you and the Boards have had the opportunity to further debate the options available to them.

Yours sincerely

Morna Wilson
Chief Executive