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| **Forward Together Conference – July 2016** | |
| **Collated Evaluations** | |
| **Date** | 6th July 2016 |
| **Venue** | The Kings Centre, Norwich |
| **Number of completed evaluations** | 61 |

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| **Please rate the event overall:** | **Score** | **Responses** |
| 1= poor  2= satisfactory  3= good  4= excellent | **1** | 0 |
| **2** | 4 |
| **3** | 23 |
| **4** | 24 |
| **No score** | 10 |
| **The Event was value for money:** |  |  |
| 1= poor  2= satisfactory  3= good  4= excellent | **1** | 0 |
| **2** | 3 |
| **3** | 11 |
| **4** | 40 |
| **No score** | 7 |
| **The Marketplace was:** |  |  |
| 1= poor  2= satisfactory  3= good  4= excellent | **1** | 1 |
| **2** | 11 |
| **3** | 32 |
| **4** | 12 |
| **No score** | 5 |
| **The workshops were:** |  |  |
| 1= poor  2= satisfactory  3= good  4= excellent | **1** | 0 |
| **2** | 10 |
| **3** | 21 |
| **4** | 23 |
| **No score** | 7 |
| **The speakers were:** |  |  |
| 1= poor  2= satisfactory  3= good  4= excellent | **1** | 0 |
| **2** | 3 |
| **3** | 27 |
| **4** | 28 |
| **No score** | 3 |
| **The accessibility was:** |  |  |
| 1= poor  2= satisfactory  3= good  4= excellent | **1** | 3 |
| **2** | 2 |
| **3** | 23 |
| **4** | 28 |
| **No score** | 5 |
| **The food was:** |  |  |
| 1= poor  2= satisfactory  3= good  4= excellent | **1** | 0 |
| **2** | 1 |
| **3** | 20 |
| **4** | 37 |
| **No score** | 3 |

**Feedback on the morning workshops**

**Workshop 1**

**Mental health and physical activity – Shelley Ames, Active Norfolk** (7 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| * Excellent * Relevant to our charity * Could have done with longer session – covering too much. Great impact – was enthusiastic for subject area. |

**Workshop 2**

**Loneliness - Ruth Taylor, MIND** (11 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| * Food for thought. * Excellent speakers (sic). * Good structure but limited time for mapping and developing understanding of focused work in the community. * Didn’t know what was going to happen to the information. * Didn’t achieve intention – lesson what loneliness is and more about what to do about it, was needed. * Rather unfocussed. * Too “fluffy”. |

**Workshop 3**

**Funding Workshop – Stuart Riddington, Charity Edge** (25 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| * Superb – thorough, clear and well presented. I didn’t expect this to be relevant as I work for a National Charity with a Fundraising team but it was very helpful. * Underpinned existing knowledge. * Good presentation – would like a longer session. * Fairly basic information and seemed to be aimed at larger organisations. * Seemed to be aimed at larger organisations. * Didn’t learn too much more. * A repeat of a course I had recently attended but very useful and well delivered. * Pitched too low x 3 * Really bad! Do not rebook this guy. * Bit basic for my needs – case studies would have been good. * Quite basic. Would prefer more specific workshop e.g. corporate with examples of pitches. * Very introductory level – not quite tailored to the audience today |

**Workshop 4**

**Governance following kids Company – Charlotte Stannard, Community Action Norfolk and Cindee Crehan, Momentum** (12 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| Interesting helpful information.  Great.  Perhaps aimed at “beginner” level – but very interesting and the speakers were brilliant.  Rushed.  Rushed – unnecessarily? Questions to come!  Bit rushed – didn’t really focus on Kids Company/lessons learnt. |

**Feedback on the afternoon workshops**

**Workshop 1**

**Measuring Impact - Stuart Riddington, Charity Edge and Cindee Crehan, Momentum** (19 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| * Very useful thought provoking. * Superb – thorough, clear and very well presented. * Wanted to hear more ‘how to’ with real examples. * Rushed. * Useful but not as much as I had hoped. * A bit basic. * Mark (sic) spoke too simply. * OK – typical formula/presentation format. |

**Workshop 2**

**Enabling Communities – David Collinson and Paul Jackson, Norfolk County Council** (18 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| * Very good discussion. * Let’s hope the openness and positivity build better futures for all. * Good discussions and debate. * Too broad a subject to cover in 45 mins. Table/groups would have worked better. * Helpful. * Useful intro on how NCC wants to change its engagement with communities and how to prioritise and devolve. * Felt a bit sorry for the people leading this workshop – they were in the firing line a bit! * Lots of feedback but same promises as given before, no real progress or action. * Very interesting – hopefully (sic) |

**Workshop 3**

Finding the Right Business Model for your organisation – Jon Clemo, Community Action Norfolk (10 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| * Good presentation – would like longer session. * Good to have case studies from (sic) * Too short for content. * Session was not planned very well and use of power point (visual stuff). * Not what I expected – that it would be Social Enterprise/Charity etc. |

**Workshop 4**

**Mental Health Needs Assessment - Chris Williams, Norfolk County Council** (3 responses received)

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| **Comments:** |
| * Better than morning session (funding) |

**Please tell us your views on the speakers**

**Any other comments:**

* Very interesting speakers – Mark in particular was very passionate & interesting. Really useful to hear from Anna about funding opportunities.
* Overall a good line-up of speakers offering interesting information.
* Mark Pendlington - very good speaker.
* Why so many acronyms? Why so much self-promotion? Less talk more action.
* Tom McCabe – provoking
* Grant for funding for training and new work for Music Therapy still unresolved.
* Great day. Very helpful information.
* All good speakers but quite draining to have a succession of set piece speeches to start the day. Also, too many ‘speeches’ during the question time. Suggest: 1. give perhaps a 2-minute slot between each session for a member organisation to either pitch or present how they’re dealing with a challenge. 2. A “soap box” opportunity early in day.
* Particularly enjoyed Mark Pendlington – very inspiring – ‘we all need to work together to change the world’ and loved Tom McCabe’s comment ‘we are all Norfolk’.
* Overall a really good conference, well presented and great speakers.
* All together a helpful day.
* A good day.
* Mark Pendlington - Inspiring – presentation useful in opening up the world outside Vol/Com/SE by describing the place of business and its relationship with communities and the notion of partnerships and integration and joint working (sic).
* Very refreshing and helpful to hear their points of view for the future working together with companies like my own.
* Would have preferred one less speaker and more time with each. Nothing against any of the speakers, just felt a bit rushed.
* Struggled to tie the speakers to the theme of the conference apart from Anna.
* All good.
* Quest for funding for training and new work for Music Therapy still unsolved.
* It’s always ‘talk’ but doesn’t feel /seem like much ‘do’. And a HUGE amount of jargon without really saying anything (morning speakers).
* Info came out very late.

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| **As a result of attending today, Which of the following apply to you?** | | | |
|  | **Yes** | **No** | **Not completed** |
| **I made new contacts** | 50 | 6 | 5 |
| **I gained knowledge/ideas to use in my role** | 55 | 3 | 3 |

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| **Are you a:** | |
| **Senior decision maker** | 29 |
| **Manager** | 18 |
| **Practitioner** | 8 |
| **No selection made** | 6 |

**Please add any additional comments:**

* Interesting well planned day, good discussions, good speakers- loved Mark from LEP.
* Explore with government the impact of Brexit may have on all our voluntary sector charities/groups (when the dust has settled).
* As a relative newcomer to the sector it was very useful for me - a more structured networking opportunity would be great- including less sitting down! (Although speakers were excellent.
* Thank you the day was extremely well organised- I know how much work goes into events such as these and appreciate you organising such an enjoyable day.
* Lovely to feel connected with like-minded people.
* Thank you for organising.
* Really useful
* A great conference, please keep it annual, keeps issues alive and meaningful.
* Felt very positive.
* Thank you for organising the event. Learned from peers and good to create a sense of a VCSE community.
* Excellently chaired by Tim.
* Lots of useful info. Thanks
* Thank you, enjoyed the day.
* The importance of outdoors was not highlighted as much as it should have been.
* Attended until 12pm only due to another appointment.
* A useful and interesting day. Thank you. Well chaired by Tim. I was annoyed that the speaker from the CCG said all the right words about working with the voluntary sector but has been (presumably) responsible for cutting the complete statutory funding to Home Starts in Norfolk who deliver preventable services to 500 families in Norfolk, particularly relevant to the mental health arena.
* Very enjoyable thank you.
* A very productive and enjoyable event.
* It would be good to have a panel Q/A session on issues facing the sector – challenge for the County Council.
* Suggested future speaker: Business in the Community.
* An excellent conference- thank you for your hard work in putting this together.
* A good day, really pleased I came.
* High calibre of speakers- brilliant that they were attracted to take part, especially Mark Pendlington as need for sector to work across society as a whole. Networking opportunities throughout day were invaluable – so useful to hear approaches to challenges in the county, and consider how we can move forward together.
* The facilitators in workshop 1 were dreadful. They need to slow down a breathe, not go red in the face a have a sight of their body language to all audience do not need to have them complain about having to fit in what would normally be half day session very disappointed.
* Would have been good to have a bit more info on content beforehand. E.g. more detailed agenda. Info on workshop leaders etc. Helps with deciding who is most appropriate to attend and whether the event can be prioritised.
* Great event, well organised and enjoyable workshops slightly rushed, would have been happy to stay till 4.30pm.
* Enjoyed the event and think it is really great to get the sector together. Difficult to pitch the workshops for small and large organisations – felt quite general. Attended last year’s and really enjoyed having more workshops and more focused ones so you could go into more detail.

**Continued/**

* Would like to hear more about actual actions from council CCG etc., opposed to ‘in an ideal world we would like to do….’ What have they actually done to engage with us? We’ve heard it all before, tell us what’s happened! Thank you.
* Needs better cohesive working together and awareness of funding. Venue not the most convenient location in Norwich – as small charity -having to spend money on transport and park & ride fares, eats into any funds (sic). Somewhere with onsite parking maybe useful.
* Too much (sic) examples using power points/ and flipcharts. Information- could be sent by email as this can be read by computer techno work. Support from the venue staff was very good. Lift does not have voice recognition.
* Certainly hope some of the promises of engagement with the voluntary sector comes to fruition as far NCC and CCGs are concerned.
* Felt that social care was represented over other sectors. Conference was not diverse- shockingly so. At least two sexist jokes were told (wedding metaphor in funding sessions ‘chairmen’s wives’ in LEP speech) - this is not acceptable in this day and age and reflects badly on Norfolk along with the lack of diversity in the organisations and delegates.

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| **Would you like to attend a similar event in future?** | | | |
|  | **Yes** | **No** | **Not completed** |
|  | 55 | 2 | 4 |

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