

A Proposal for the Green Print Forum –Jan 2007

The Benefits of this project:

The aim of this Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) project (within the community development sub-group) is to increase the numbers of people who volunteer in environmental projects in the voluntary and community sector, in Suffolk Coastal in order to improve our natural environment and the ability of environmental voluntary and community groups to conserve, monitor and manage it.

Project Contacts:

Karen Lawson: I am working for the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) as a 'Voluntary and Community Sector Development Co-ordinator for Suffolk Coastal'. This long title means that my role is to support voluntary and community groups in Suffolk Coastal by providing one-to-one support, training, promoting networking and partnership working and helping increase the 'voice' of the voluntary and community sector at higher decision making levels. Although paid for by the LSP, I am actually employed by the Suffolk Association of Voluntary Organisations (SAVO).

Other people contributing to this project and leading on different aspects e.g. training, targeting businesses etc. include other members of the LSP, Gill Robinson from the Suffolk Volunteering Federation, Anna Martin from Suffolk Connect and others. I am seeking to work closely with as many partners as possible to bring together a strategy for delivering this project.

Project Objectives

- Research current environmental volunteering opportunities in Suffolk Coastal
- Identify voluntary and community organisations with volunteers who are keen to increase their numbers of volunteers and who would like to be part of this project and strategy.
- Develop a strategy and workplan with partners for recruiting, training and retaining environmental volunteers. (This may include joining with the 'healthy living roadshows' or displays a key events, targeting key sectors e.g. businesses to promote employee volunteering in Coastal).
- Provide training and support to organisations where / if required on retaining volunteers etc.
- Measure effectiveness of campaign and share what has worked / hasn't worked with each other.

How Green Print Forum can be a part of this project

- Assist with identifying current volunteering levels and opportunities, and environmental based organisations and groups in Suffolk Coastal.
- Work in partnership to develop a strategy and plan for recruiting more volunteers for this sector
- Identify issues regarding recruiting, training or retaining volunteers and any training / networking / information needs etc.

Next Step:

As a forum decide if this is something you'd like to work with.

Let me know details of your group and other groups who would like to take part in this project.

Research current volunteering opportunities with as much specific information about volunteer roles / tasks / job descriptions as possible. The more information as possible about specific roles will be really helpful in targeting specific businesses, areas or sectors of the community.

Collate information about current environmental volunteer numbers / days worked in Coastal to use as base-line data.

Agree a date on a Tuesday or Thursday if possible when we can meet to plan specific activities.

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